

STARS AND STRIPES®



**It's bombs away
for USAF
at Excalibur**
Page 10



**I love
Paris on
a budget**
Travel, Page 23

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2004

50¢

U.S. prepares major offensive in Najaf

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Marines, GIs disturbed by fighting in cemetery

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Unfit for duty?

Staff Sgt. William Pace wanted out as a squad leader with the 25th Infantry Division in Afghanistan. But his superiors told him, in the infantry "you don't just quit your job."

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PHOTO BY JON R. ANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CHRISTOPHER SIX/Stars and Stripes

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Fresno slayings: Prosecutors in Fresno, Calif., say they will seek the death penalty against a man charged with shooting nine of his children in his home.

Marcus Wesson is charged with shooting nine of his children, ages 1 to 25, on March 12. Officers were called to his home by two women who were trying to retrieve their children from inside the Wesson household.

Wesson, 57, is also accused of 13 sex crimes, including rape, with each of the victims believed to be family members. He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Smart abduction: The woman accused in the Elizabeth Smart kidnapping is still not competent to stand trial and must receive another year of treatment, a Utah judge has ruled.

Wanda Barzee, 58, who first was ruled incompetent in January, remains incompetent, but there is a "substantial probability she may become competent in the foreseeable future," Third District Judge Judith Atherton said Tuesday. She ordered another evaluation on Aug. 10, 2005.

Barzee, and her husband, Brian David Mitchell, are accused of kidnapping the then 14-year-old girl at knife-point from her Salt Lake City home June 5, 2002, and holding her captive for nine months. Authorities said Mitchell, a self-proclaimed prophet, wanted the girl for his second wife.

Stewart perjury trial: A federal judge in New York declined to throw out perjury charges Wednesday against the ink expert who testified at the Martha Stewart trial about a stock worksheet that was used as evidence.

Larry Stewart, no relation to Martha Stewart, is accused of lying repeatedly on the witness stand, mainly by exaggerating his role in ink-analysis testing of the worksheet.

Steinberg release: Joel Steinberg, who left prison in June after serving 17 years for the beating death of his 6-year-old adopted daughter, was thrown out of a Manhattan halfway house because of a magazine interview he gave in which he called himself "a good father."

By giving the interview, Steinberg violated a condition of his stay that he not speak to the news media while he resided at the house, said JoAnne Page, president of the Fortune Society, which runs the facility.

Steinberg, who served two thirds of the maximum 25-year sentence after he was convicted of killing Lisa Steinberg, left the halfway house on Saturday, Page said.

Chicken plant video: Federal compliance officers have finished investigating the West Virginia processing plant where workers were accused of torturing chickens before slaughter, but the U.S. Department of Agriculture is still reviewing the results.

Spokesman Matt Baum said Wednesday it may be a few weeks before the agency decides whether any action is needed at the Pilgrimage Pride plant in Moorefield, where 11 workers were fired for mistreating birds.

The abuse came to light last month when



Berlin Wall anniversary: Two women pass the Berlin Wall on Wednesday at the Wall Memorial Park. Friday is the 43rd anniversary of the building of the wall, which divided Berlin in two parts until it was torn down in 1989.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals released secretly recorded video of workers stomping, kicking and slamming chickens against walls.

World

Germany terror trial: A key al-Qaida captive in U.S. custody told interrogators that a Moroccan on trial for helping the Hamburg-based Sept. 11, 2001, suicide pilots had no knowledge of the plot, according to a summary of the questioning of two key terror suspects presented Wednesday for the first time in court.

Mounir el Motassadeq, accused of giving logistical aid to the Hamburg al-Qaida cell that included hijackers Mohamed Atta, Marwan al-Shehhi and Ziad Jarrah, is being retried after his conviction was thrown out in March.

The Justice Department's summary of interrogations presented in the Hamburg state court said Ramzi bin al-Shibh, believed to be the Hamburg cell's contact with al-Qaida, maintained that el Motassadeq was not part of the plot.

Al-Qaida operative arrest: Police have arrested a close aide of a senior Pakistani al-Qaida operative who used to run a terror training camp in Afghanistan and was recently captured in the United Arab Emirates, an official said Wednesday.

The aide, identified only as Arshad, was arrested in a raid late Monday on a hideout in Sialkot, said Sialkot police chief Nisar Sohray.

Police seized 12 rockets, three rocket launchers, two AK-47 assault rifles, three pistols and ammunition.

Arshad is believed to be a close aide of Qari Saifullah Akhtar who used to run a terror camp near the Afghan capital Kabul that trained 3,500 men in combat skills, including assassination and kidnapping. He was arrested recently in Dubai, and Pakistani officials said over the weekend that he had been flown to Pakistan for questioning.

Russian oil prices: It still pumps a fifth of Russia's oil and its prized production assets haven't been nationalized yet, but fears about the future of oil giant Yukos have helped push crude prices to record levels.

Analysts say output cuts or a state take-

over of the company would propel prices even higher, threaten Russia's production growth and jeopardize its international standing.

With an end-of-August deadline to pay a crippling \$3.4 billion back-tax bill that may be just a fraction of the final claim against Yukos, concerns about supply interruptions at the company that provides some 3.3 percent of the oil bought internationally have spooked a jittery and overheated market.

Abductees in N. Korea: Japan and North Korea began talks Wednesday in China on a dispute over the fate of as many as 10 Japanese nationals abducted by the North decades ago.

Japanese media reports said Tokyo could suspend critical food aid to impoverished North Korea or refuse to resume talks on establishing diplomatic relations if the issue of the 10 missing is not resolved satisfactorily.

North Korea admitted in 2002 that it abducted 13 Japanese nationals during the 1970s and '80s to steal their identities and teach Japanese language and culture to its spies. Five of the abductees were returned to Japan in 2002.

Campaign for Suu Kyi freedom: Myanmar's main pro-democracy party has launched a nationwide campaign seeking the immediate and unconditional release of its leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, and other political detainees, the party's spokesman said Wednesday.

The National League for Democracy began collecting signatures for its campaign on July 19, a Myanmar holiday known as Martyrs Day, marking the anniversary of the 1947 assassination of Myanmar independence hero Gen. Aung San, who was Suu Kyi's father.

Getting the public involved in such a campaign may be unprecedented in Myanmar, which has been under virtually continuous military rule since 1962. Few people are willing to publicly express criticism of the government, and dissidents usually face official harassment or worse.

Suu Kyi's party won a landslide victory in 1990 elections, but the military refused to cede power. Suu Kyi has spent long periods of time under house arrest.

Stories and photos from wire services

Correction

A story in Wednesday's editions about a new book aimed at providing guidance to Navy chief petty officers contained incorrect information. The book, "The Chief Petty Officer's Guide," is not produced by the U.S. Navy.

Comics, horoscopes
and advice — every day
in Stars and Stripes

A follower of rebel Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr holds the helmet of a U.S. servicemember Tuesday during clashes pitting al-Sadr's Mahdi army against U.S. and Iraqi forces in the holy city of Najaf, southern Iraq. Al-Sadr, whose Shiite militia has been battling U.S. forces across Iraq, instructed his fighters to continue their battle even if he is killed or captured.



AP

U.S. readies Najaf offensive

Military says Iraqi prime minister must first approve operation

By TODD PITMAN
The Associated Press

NAJAF, Iraq — U.S. troops prepared a major offensive to root out Shiite militiamen in the holy city of Najaf, training Iraqi security forces Wednesday to join the assault. In a sign of the operation's sensitivity, the military says Iraq's prime minister must approve.

Fighting persisted in the vast cemetery near Najaf's holiest site, the Imam Ali Shrine, where U.S. commanders say Mahdi Army militiamen loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr have been holed up [see related story on Page 7]. Gunbattles between militants and coalition forces in two other southern cities killed 18 people.

Farther north, U.S. jet fighters bombed the turbulent city of Fallujah on Wednesday, killing four people, wounding four others and damaging several houses, hospital officials said.

The U.S. military had no immediate comment, but U.S. forces have persistently fought with Sunni Muslim militants holed up in the city. Many of the insurgents believed responsible for the spate of kidnappings, bombings and shooting attacks at coalition forces, Iraqi

forces and civilians, are based in the volatile city, 40 miles west of Baghdad.

In Najaf, the Marines said Wednesday they are training Iraqi security forces in preparation for a major assault to root out the fighters.

Speaking of the timing for the planned major assault, U.S. Marine Maj. David Holahan said interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi "makes the final decision."

It was not known whether commanders were planning a raid into the Imam Ali Shrine, an action that could enrage Iraq's Shiite majority and Shiites worldwide. Najaf's governor has given U.S. troops permission to enter the shrine compound.

A raid carried out by Iraqi security forces may be seen as less provocative to Shiite sensibilities. But many have criticized the Iraqi troops as insufficiently trained or armed.

Militiamen were once again firing on U.S. troops from a building just 400 yards from the Imam Ali Shrine. On Tuesday, U.S. helicopter gunships pummeled the multistory hotel with rockets, missiles and 30 mm cannons, killing 20 people, the military said, in one of the closest strikes yet to the shrine.

"We keep pushing south and they just keep coming," said Capt. Patrick McFall, from the 1st Cavalry Division.

Ibrahim al-Jaafari, Iraq's interim vice president, called on the U.S. troops to withdraw from Najaf.

"Only Iraqi forces should stay in Najaf, these forces should be responsible for security and should save Najaf from this phenomenon of killing," al-Jaafari told Arab TV network Al-Jazeera from London on Wednesday.

Coalition forces said they were operating in the city at the request of the government.

The top health official in Najaf, Falah al-Mahani, said the deteriorating security situation was causing "a real catastrophe" for the health services.

"Ambulances are prevented from reaching the injured people by the clashing parties. Our staff are not able to reach their hospitals. We are paralyzed," he said, adding that the fighting injured 18 members of his staff.

In a statement to his supporters Wednesday, al-Sadr said: "I hope that you keep fighting even if you see me detained or martyred. ... I thank the dear fighters all over Iraq for what they have done to set back injustice."

The U.S. military has estimated that hundreds of insurgents have been killed in Najaf since fighting began last Thursday, but the militants dispute that. Five U.S. troops have been killed, along with about 20 Iraqi officers.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Tuesday, 928 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 690 died as a result of hostile action and 238 died of nonhostile causes.

The number of soldiers killed in hostile action dropped by one from Monday's figure of 691, according to the Defense Department, but it gave no explanation for the change.

The British military has reported 62 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Poland, seven; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 790 U.S. soldiers have died — 581 as a result of hostile action and 209 of nonhostile causes, according to the Defense Department.

The Department of Defense plans to update its weekly tally of the number of U.S. wounded in action on Wednesday this week, instead of Tuesday.

The latest deaths reported by U.S. Central Command:

■ No deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Army Capt. Andrew R. Houghton, 25, Houston, Texas; died Monday at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., of injuries sustained on July 10 in Ad Dhuhra, Iraq, when a rocket-propelled grenade detonated near his vehicle; assigned to the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany.

Rumsfeld applauds progress in Afghanistan voter registration

By JOHN J. LUMPKIN
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld renewed America's commitment to building democracy in war-torn Afghanistan Wednesday and hailed a hearty pace of registration for the October presidential election.

"The goal of course is for the Afghan security forces to be able to provide for the security," he said. "And each month, each quarter, solid progress is being made."

Joining President Hamid Karzai at a news conference not long after his arrival here, Rumsfeld said, "Your leadership team is showing great courage in your efforts" to stabilize the country.

"This upcoming election is an important one," he said. "When we talked a few months ago, the hope was three, four — maybe five — million registered voters. I'm told by the Joint Election Commission today, they claim something like 9 million, of which a stable portion is women."

Rumsfeld noted that there "has been a campaign of intimidation" and "attempts to dissuade people from registering."

He called the heavy voter registration "a very vivid demonstration of the Afghan people's determination to make democracy work."

During his daylong visit, Rumsfeld planned consultations with United Nations officials and Af-

ghan officials, as well as meetings with senior U.S. military officials.

Before flying to the Afghan capital, he said that U.S.-led coalition forces are preparing a coordinated effort to attack the narcotics trade in the country, recognizing that drug income could be used to fund insurgents and terrorists in the country.

Rumsfeld offered few specifics, but noted the British government previously has taken the lead in working with Karzai's administration to address the drug trade in Afghanistan.

"There are plans being finished now," Rumsfeld had said Tuesday, in Oman for the first of several visits to U.S. allies in the region. "I don't want to get into whose troops will do what."



AP

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, left, and Afghan president Hamid Karzai shake hands during a press conference in Kabul on Wednesday. Rumsfeld arrived Wednesday for talks ahead of the first democratic presidential elections in the country scheduled for October 9.

A question of quitting

Army sergeant court-martialed after declaring himself incapable of job

BY JON R. ANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Staff Sgt. William Pace decided he just couldn't do it anymore.

As a squad leader with the 25th Infantry Division's quick reaction force — part of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment — Pace was responsible for nine soldiers tasked with responding to virtually any flare-up throughout southern Afghanistan.

It could be anything: reinforcing a remote outpost under siege, securing a downed aircraft, rescuing an ambushed convoy. Pace and his men wouldn't know until they were loading into helicopters and on their way.

Just a few weeks into the mission, however, something wasn't right. And so on May 10, Pace went to his platoon sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Pentz, and told him he wanted to step down as the leader of the 2nd squad.

Pentz told Pace to sleep on it and come back and talk him the next morning.

That evening, Pace gathered his men inside their tent next to the noisy Kandahar flight line and told them he was thinking about turning the squad over.

That's where Pace's commanders say he crossed the line.

A soldier's duty

Last week, the 35-year-old soldier faced an Army court-martial, charged with dereliction of duty and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

Army prosecutors said the case cuts to the very heart of what it means to be a soldier.

"This is not a job at Wal-Mart," Capt. Brett Egusa, the chief prosecutor, told the military judge, Col. Stephanie Browne. "At Wal-Mart, someone can quit as the cashier and it doesn't matter. Someone else just fills in."

But not in the Army, said Egusa. "You can't quit in the infantry."

The consequence, he argued, was sending "a message you no longer have to do what you're told." The risk: The whole Army could just "decide to step down."

Perhaps ironically for a soldier who did not feel fit to lead his

troops, Egusa argued Pace's biggest sin was that he told his troops what was going on.

"What's key here is that he went to his troops first," said Egusa.

The reasons why Pace wanted to quit may never be publicly known. He did not testify in his trial, and on his lawyer's advice, declined to be interviewed.

What is known is, that while stuck on recruiting duty in Maryland, Pace had lobbied hard to get reassigned into the division, volunteering to go to Afghanistan shortly before the unit moved out.

Not long after arriving, according to testimony during the trial, it was apparent that there was friction between Pace and some of his leaders. Whether that was the cause or the symptom of his uncertainty as a squad leader is unclear.

What Pace's trial did reveal, however, is the difficulty soldiers can face when they aren't comfortable performing their jobs. In a service where pilots can turn in their wings and officers can resign their commissions, Pace's trial raises questions about when it's appropriate for a leader to say he's no longer fit to lead — and whom he should say it to.

Pace's attorney, Capt. Paul Golden, argued that while Pace's actions were outside of Army tradition, the soldier did the right thing.

"They don't like that he requested to step down, but that doesn't make it criminal," said Golden. "In fact, you could argue that it was the responsible thing to do, as was telling his men."

Pace "felt a responsibility to tell his troops that he was thinking about stepping down," Golden said.

The first step

Pentz, the platoon sergeant, said he wanted to let Pace go.

"You can't force someone to have authority he doesn't want to have," Pentz testified.

"When Pace approached him, 'He told me that he was thinking about stepping down,'" Pentz testified. "He told me he didn't think he was up to par."

The next day, said Pentz, Pace told him he had talked to his men. "That's when I knew he had hanged himself," said Pentz.

That's also when Pentz took Pace to see company 1st Sergeant Jeffery Wilson, the top noncommissioned officer in Company A.

Wilson said Pace was evasive about why he wanted to step down.

"I spent 45 minutes trying to get him to tell me why," said Wilson.

In the end, he said, all Pace would say is that "the standards were too high."

Wilson said he wanted to help Pace but insisted "being a squad leader in the infantry, you don't just quit your job."

When cross-examined by Golden, Wilson said that he wouldn't want his troops going into battle with a squad leader who wasn't confident in his abilities.

"What is an NCO supposed to do if he doesn't feel up to the job?" Judge Browne asked Wilson.

Wilson's response was straightforward: "Bring it up with the chain of command."

Yes, Pace appeared to have done exactly that, Wilson said. Yes, he had taken the proper steps, "right up until he talked to his men. After that, no."

Turnout

Lining up several of Pace's soldiers, prosecutors tried to paint a picture of a unit turned upside down in the wake of Pace's announcement.

Pte Robert Samuel was watching a movie inside the squad tent when Pace came in and gathered everyone around.

"In the next few days, I'm going to be stepping down as squad leader," Pace told the squad.

Samuel said he was shocked. Ever since arriving in Afghanistan he had been nervous.

"I feared for my life," said the grenadier. "I've never been in a combat zone before."

Pace had always said he'd take care of him. Now, he was leaving.

"My morale dropped," said Samuel. "His mind was made up, he wanted to quit."

Soon afterward, Pace was handed an Article 15, nonjudicial punishment, for quitting his position.

Usually, such punishment entails fines and being stripped of rank.

Exercising his right under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Pace declined the Article 15 and demanded a court-martial.



JON R. ANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

Army commanders said while it was bad enough that Staff Sgt. William Pace, a squad leader with the 25th Infantry Division's quick reaction force, would decide to quit his post in Kandahar, Afghanistan, he crossed the line by discussing his decision with his soldiers.

Going up the chain

After talking to Wilson, Pace said he wanted to see the battalion commander. But first, that meant talking to his company commander, Capt. Peter Farrell.

Sitting outside between the command tents around May 10, Farrell said he talked with Pace for about an hour.

"What I expressed first and foremost was that this was serious; you don't quit," said Farrell.

Not long after, Pace found himself before the battalion command sergeant major.

"He said he wasn't getting along with his platoon sergeant," said Command Sgt. Maj. Arthur Coleman. "His mind was made up, he wanted to quit."

Soon afterward, Pace was handed an Article 15, nonjudicial punishment, for quitting his position. Usually, such punishment entails fines and being stripped of rank.

Exercising his right under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Pace declined the Article 15 and demanded a court-martial.

Days before the trial, Pace was offered another chance for an Article 15 with less punishment. He agreed, until he was told he'd have to sign a statement pleading guilty to the two charges against him — dereliction of duty and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

"I said 'no way,'" Pace told Stars and Stripes. "They just weren't true."

Pace declined to elaborate, saying only that he feared retribution if he spoke to the press.

At the end of the court-martial, Browne offered no explanation as she pronounced Pace not guilty on both charges.

Most of Pace's chain of command stormed out of the courtroom. At least a half-dozen soldiers, however, filed by to congratulate him.

Pace is now serving in the battalion's headquarters company, working as a security guard for the airfield.

E-mail Jon R. Anderson at: anderson@mil.csi.cpsd.com

Tape shows beheading; official says victim isn't CIA agent

BY MAAMOUN YOUSSEF

The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — An Islamic Web site carried a videotape Wednesday that appeared to show militants in Iraq beheading a man identified as a CIA agent. The authenticity of the videotape could not be verified immediately.

A U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said CIA officials have accounted for all employees and no one is missing.

U.S. officials were working to determine if the tape was authentic, the official said.

The Web site, which Islamic extremists often use to post tapes and statements, displayed footage of eight militants surrounding a seated man. A sign around the man's neck showed his photograph and carried a message saying he was a CIA agent and what appeared to be an official pass bearing the word "visitor" written in English.

The footage, titled "Video of the behead-

ing of an American CIA operative in Iraq," lasted more than four minutes and included several scenes, including a masked militant holding a large knife to the captive's throat.

The footage was shot during the daylight hours in a house that appeared to be in a rural area. Date palm trees could be seen behind a mud brick wall. The location of the house was not given in the videotape.

The captive, who appeared to be Caucasian and wore a brown T-shirt and light-col-

ored pants, was shown seated on a chair in what appeared to be the courtyard of a house surrounded by eight masked militants.

In a subsequent shot, a masked man was shown standing alongside the captive holding a large saber-like sword. The masked man then chortled repeatedly at the captive's neck, severing the head.

The militant then held the head aloft "Allahu Akbar" — Arabic for God is Great.

Al-Qaida uses old methods, new technology

Bin Laden combines low-tech and high-tech communications to stay hidden but in control

BY PAUL HAVEN
Associated Press Writer

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — If Osama bin Laden is directing plans for an attack on the United States — as Washington intelligence officials suspect — his instructions are likely coming out of the craggy mountains between Afghanistan and Pakistan on the back of a donkey or under the shawl of a villager.

After the arrests of several top lieutenants, bin Laden and his right hand man, Egyptian Ayman al-Zawahiri, have learned their lessons well, Pakistani intelligence officials and international terrorism experts say. They don't use satellite or cellular phones, don't trust anyone outside their innermost circle and never come up for air.

Messages from the men likely pass through the hands of many couriers, most of whom have no idea where they originated, before they are turned into e-mails or conveyed by phone calls to other militants.

The U.S. government believes plans for a terror attack are being directed at the most senior levels of the al-Qaida leadership, including bin Laden, a U.S. intelligence official said.

How much input the top men

have is open to question, but a Pakistani government official said that several captured al-Qaida men have told authorities they received instructions from bin Laden.

"Probably he is alive, and some al-Qaida suspects captured in Pakistan have talked about receiving verbal messages from him through different channels," he said of bin Laden.

The American and Pakistani officials spoke on condition of anonymity.

There has been no firm intelligence on bin Laden and al-Zawahiri's whereabouts since they slipped away during a U.S.-Afghan assault on their mountain hideouts in Tora Bora in late 2001, but they are believed to be hiding in the mountainous no man's land between Pakistan and Afghanistan, protected by deeply conservative tribesmen who share their beliefs.

With the exception of about a half-dozen audio taped messages that the CIA has authenticated as being his voice, there has been virtually no sign of bin Laden since shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. That silence has lent him almost a mythic quality, especially among his followers, but officials say he is still very real, and very dangerous.



Osama bin Laden, seen above in April 1998, has hardly been seen since Sept. 11, 2001. How does he do it? By using primitive methods that can't be traced by intelligence officials.

The Pakistani intelligence official said one of the best leads came with the arrest of al-Qaida's No. 3 man, Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, who had a letter on him that he told interrogators he got directly from bin Laden, and which experts authenticated as being in bin Laden's handwriting.

The letter was apparently personal and destined for several of bin Laden's relatives in Iran, the official said. He would give no further details.

Several top al-Qaida fugitives arrested in Pakistan have allegedly been tracked using satellite in-

tercepts, including Abu Zubaydah and Ramzi Binalshibh. The importance of discretion has become even more apparent in recent weeks following the July 13 arrest of an alleged al-Qaida computer whiz named Mohammed Naem Noor Khan. Intelligence gleaned from Khan and his computer has led to counterterrorism operations in Pakistan, Britain and the United Arab Emirates, and dozens of suspects have been arrested.

Khan's computer contained a trove of information, including coded e-mails to other operatives.

He is said to have cooperated with authorities and sent e-mails while in custody to militants so that authorities could arrest them.

Pakistani authorities say bin Laden and al-Zawahiri have shielded themselves, staying clear of the chatter between lower ranking operatives. Bin Laden is seen mostly as a financial backer and religious inspiration to his fighters, making regular communication unnecessary.

The Pakistani intelligence official acknowledged the lack of solid intelligence has been frustrating.

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08812

Officials ready for approaching sand flies

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Peak leishmaniasis season in Iraq and Afghanistan is approaching, and military health officials are redoubling efforts to arm deployed troops with prevention measures.

Preventative medicine officials are deployed to those countries to brief troops about protections, hand out insecticides containing DEET and make sure troops have mosquito netting for their cots. They also hold pre- and post-deployment briefings.

And entomologists this year are spraying the ground of military bases and camps to kill the sand flies, said Dr. (Lt. Col.) Glenn Wortmann, program director of the infectious disease fellowship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington.

"With the initial [Iraq] invasion, that was not a top priority," Wortmann said. "Not getting shot was a top priority. What's new is now [health prevention specialists] are there making sure everyone has DEET, everyone has mosquito netting, and the entomologists are spraying insecticides."

The disease, spread by the bite

of a sand fly, has infected more than 600 troops since early 2003. Most broke out with minor skin lesions.

In Southwest and Central Asia, sand flies are active from March through October, peaking in September in some regions.

The disease is caused by parasites transmitted via sand fly saliva, and comes in three forms: cutaneous, affecting the skin; mucosal, affecting the mouth, nose and throat and which can disfigure; and visceral, affecting internal organs and can be fatal if untreated.

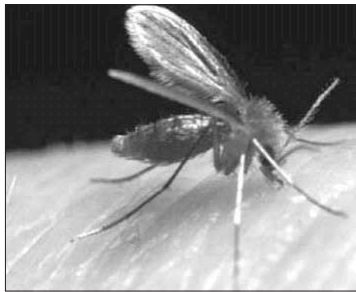
The incubation period is about three to six months, meaning symptoms don't show themselves soon after being bit.

Three troops, two out of Afghanistan and one out of Iraq, have been treated for visceral leishmaniasis, Wortmann said.

"All three are doing very well. ... They were not close to death at all."

The three experienced "persistent fevers for weeks on end" and were diagnosed after getting medical treatment at U.S. military hospitals in the States.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontz.s@stripes.osd.mil



Dr. Ed Rowan/WRAIR

Top: In this magnified photo, a sand fly delivers what could be a parasite-carrying bite that causes leishmaniasis, a disabling and sometimes deadly tropical illness.



LTC PETE WEINIA/WRAIR

Painful skin lesions characterize the "cutaneous" form of leishmaniasis, which can also attack the nose, throat, mouth and even internal organs of those infected.

Important contact information

People who deployed to Southwest and Central Asia who have questions about their general health or leishmaniasis can contact the Pentagon's Deployment Health Clinical Center of the Department of Defense, telephone 866-359-1627 or at: www.pdhealth.mil.

For evaluation, treatment, and referral of military health-care beneficiaries with suspected or confirmed cases of leishmaniasis, clinicians should contact the Infectious Disease Service at either Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington at (202) 782-1663 or 6740, or Brooke Army Medical Center on San Antonio, Texas, at (210) 916-5554 or 1286.

The Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Maryland also offers diagnostic support and can be reached at (301) 319-9956.



1st MEF gets control of 11th MEU

Stars and Stripes

Control of the 2,100 Marines and sailors assigned to the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit shifted Monday from the Polish-led Multi-National Division Central-South to the Fallujah-based 1st Marine Expeditionary Force.

The 11th MEU arrived in Iraq last month, taking up bases in An Najaf and Al Qadisiyah provinces.

Recently, the Marines have been fighting Iraqi cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's

Medhi militia around the holy city of Najaf.

The control change was made, according to a coalition news release, because the Marines share a "commonality in command and control systems [and was] driven by the desire to increase and enhance the effectiveness of the MNF units in the provinces."

The 1st MEF has been responsible for Iraq's Al Anbar province, which covers most of western Iraq, since March.

Marines with Company A, Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit respond Sunday to an ambush by insurgents in Najaf, Iraq. Control of the Marines and sailors assigned to the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit shifted Monday from the Polish-led Multi-National Division Central-South to the Fallujah-based 1st Marine Expeditionary Force.

DICK KOTECKI/Courtesy of U.S. Marines

Comatose GI dies

A 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment officer badly hurt last month in the explosion of a rocket-propelled grenade exploded died early Monday of his injuries.

First Lt. Andrew R. Houghton, 25, of Houston died at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington surrounded by his family three days after a massive blood clot destroyed his brain, according to www.andyhoughton.org, a Web site produced by his relatives.

He had been comatose since the attack against the Bradley Fighting Vehicle in which he was patrolling near Ad Dhuhia, Iraq, on July 10.

Houghton, a 2001 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, had been a platoon leader in the 1st Cavalry's Troop A.

He had turned down a desk job in June, his family said on the Web site, in order to stay with his troops. He was promoted to captain shortly after his death.

He will be buried Monday at West Point, and a memorial service is scheduled Wednesday in Houston.

Services also are planned at the unit's home base in Schweinfurt, Germany, and at Forward Operating Base MacKenzie in Iraq, but details were not available.

From staff reports

Prevention tips

There's only one way to prevent leishmaniasis: Keep sand flies from biting. Here are some tips.

■ **Try to limit outdoor activity** at dusk and during the evening, when sand flies are most active.

■ **Wear protective clothing**, with uniform sleeves turned down and buttoned, and pant legs properly bunched.

■ **Apply insect repellent** with N, N-diethylmetatoluamide (DEET) to exposed skin, such as under the ends of sleeves and pant legs. Reapply according to directions.

■ **Keep uniforms properly treated** with permethrin. Make sure to apply after every five washings.

■ **Use permethrin-treated bed netting and screens** on doors and windows. Fine-mesh netting (at least 18 holes to the linear inch) is required for an effective barrier against sand flies, which are about one-third the size of mosquitoes.

■ **In the field, try to get your sleeping bag off the ground.** If you can't do that, at least use a ground pad. If sleeping under cover, sweep all loose dust and dirt from floors. The cleaner your quarters, the fewer the flies.

■ **Do not wear flea collars** designed for dogs and cats, even over boots, medical experts warn. The collars are designed to repel common house fleas and there is no evidence they work against sand flies. Meanwhile, the chemicals in the collars have not been tested for safety with humans, and can cause allergic reactions and sores that may become infected.

Sources: U.S. Army, Centers for Disease Control

Houghton

Al-Sadr militia taking fight to the grave



A follower of rebel Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr fights during clashes between the Mahdi army and U.S. and Iraqi forces Tuesday in the holy city of Najaf, southern Iraq. U.S. troops say the forces they are battling inside Najaf's vast cemetery are better trained and more professional than the insurgents they are used to fighting.

U.S. troops battling radical cleric's forces throughout vast cemetery in holy city Najaf

By KARL VICK

The Washington Post

NAJAF, Iraq — Bats flapped out of crypts, startling soldiers creeping through the cemetery with guns up. Graves opened beneath their combat boots. And an old enemy displayed a new professionalism, darting in clearly practiced moves between tombstone and mausoleum to stalk the Americans from above ground and below.

In the battle to control one of the world's largest graveyards, U.S. Marines and soldiers say they are coping with a lot, including lingering regret. The vast cemetery in Najaf is sacred to Shiite Muslims, perhaps 2 million of whom lay buried in miles of desert adjoining the shrine of Imam Ali, son-in-law of the prophet Muhammad.

Soldiers involved in the fighting described how many of the most recent graves are marked by photos, which crumble when U.S. forces shell the cemetery walls to reach the militiamen hiding within.

"Wives, daughters, husbands," said Sgt. Hector Guzman, 28, of the 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Regiment. "You just know you're destroying that tomb."

The Houston state shook his head. "It doesn't feel right some times."

What the reinforced U.S. force in southern Iraq wants to do, commanders say, is destroy the Mahdi army, the militia loyal to Muqtada al-Sadr, the militant Shiite cleric.

The militia has bedeviled the American-led occupation of Iraq since October, when its largely impoverished, disaffected young gunmen first ambushed a U.S. patrol in a Baghdad slum. A far larger, sustained uprising in April undid much of the occupation's efforts to establish security in Shiite-populated central and southern Iraq.

The current engagement, which began Thursday with another ambush, is billed by all sides as the final showdown.

Al-Sadr this week brushed aside overtures from Iraq's interim government and vowed to fight to his last drop of blood. Iraqi officials, who consult closely with the U.S. commanders of the 160,000 foreign troops in Iraq, said the door was closed on negotiations.

To close observers, the final signal for decisive battle came with the departure of Ayatollah Ali Sistani, the senior Shiite cleric in Iraq and a longtime opponent of al-Sadr's, who is widely regarded as an upstart. Sistani, who is famous for not having left his Najaf house in the previous six years, last week traveled to London just as the fighting with al-Sadr's militia erupted. The official explanation — treatment for a heart condition — brings a smile to the lips of U.S. commanders here.

"A lot of people think it's the green light for us to do what we have to do," said Maj. David Holahan, executive officer of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, which has responsibility for Najaf.

"The people will tell you they want it to end," said Army Lt. Col. Myles Miyamura, a battalion commander in the 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Regiment, which hurried from Baghdad on Thursday to reinforce the Marines. "They're ready for this to be over."

On Tuesday, while senior commanders huddled to discuss an endgame, the cemetery once again doubled as a killing field.

The battle for the graveyard went on for 36 hours. In the end, the Marines counted four of their own dead and more than 300 militants.

Still, soldiers said the insurgents showed signs that they had been training during a cease-fire, that they had kept violence here to a minimum since June. U.S. units accustomed to the disorganized, hit-and-run strikes of insurgents in Baghdad and elsewhere were impressed to see the black-clad fighters of the Mahdi army moving in coordinated units of five: typically three armed with rifles, which they fired to provide cover for the launch of rocket-propelled grenades, the weapon that has been most damaging to U.S. forces in Iraq.

"More professional," said Miyamura, the 5th Regiment battalion commander whose troops provided Najaf reinforcements. "It does mean to give them too much, but they're good. These guys really make us work to kill them, but in the end, they're dead."

Danish cease prisoner handover because of Iraq's death penalty

By CHRISTIAN WIENBERG

The Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — The Danish military suspended its handover of prisoners to British forces because of the reinstatement of Iraq's death penalty — an issue that could have broader implications and divide coalition partners working with the police of a now-sovereign Iraq.

"We wish to know for certain that people in our custody won't be handed over to face the death penalty," Danish Defense Minister Soeren Gade told reporters in Washington, where he met with U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to discuss Denmark's participation in peacekeeping missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Britain on Tuesday countered that European conventions against capital punishment do not apply in Iraq.

The 25-member European Union bans capital punishment, and leading members of the bloc made clear last month that they held that line even if the death

penalty applies to Saddam Hussein, who was arraigned July 1 on war crimes charges and who Iraqi officials have suggested may ultimately be put to death.

But Denmark's decision Tuesday was a sign of how deeply held such convictions are in Europe, and a reminder of the legal complexity of authority in Iraq.

The British Ministry of Defense said that its troops mostly patrolled jointly with Iraqi police, and when arrested, the suspects automatically went into Iraqi custody.

In other instances, British soldiers would independently arrest suspects and would have to hand them over, despite the reinstatement of capital punishment, announced Sunday.

"We are apprehending these suspects of a criminal offense in Iraq in support of the Iraqi security forces and Iraqi efforts to secure law and order," a ministry statement said. "There will be situations in which we have no choice but to hand over detainees into the Iraqi criminal justice system."



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DOD: Intel czar a concern

By HOPE YEN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Department officials cautioned Wednesday against empowering a new national intelligence director with too much authority, saying centralized control could stall critical real-time information from reaching a combat zone.

"It's all about access to that data," Maj. Gen. Raymond Odierno, former commander of the 4th Infantry Division told a House hearing. "One thing we learned in Iraq is you don't have much time."

Stephen Cambone, the Pentagon's undersecretary for intelligence, said creating a new director would require a reworking of the "relationship between the Department of Defense and supplier of information in a way a commander on the front line can be assured when he picks up the phone, he can get it."

"We'll have to reset those relationships to ensure that outcome. So far the best way has been the current arrangement," he said.

It was the second of a two-day hearing featuring testimony from Pentagon officials and defense experts on recommendations from the Sept. 11 commission to reform the intelligence community.

The defense officials' testimony Wednesday echoed concerns



President Bush, right, shakes hands Tuesday with Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla., after naming him the new director of the CIA in the Rose Garden of the White House.

raised by some skeptical House members, including Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., chairman of the Armed Services panel.

"Over the last decade, the military has grown more dependent on improved national intelligence systems for precise maneuvers and application of firepower," he said. "Transferring DOD national intelligence capabilities to an outside entity could end up dulling our military edge — which would ultimately make us less secure."

Members of both parties returned from their August recess to attend the hearings this week

after the Sept. 11 commission released a scathing 567-page report in late July citing multiple intelligence failures. House leaders say they want legislation ready in September, Senate leaders by Oct. 1.

Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry has endorsed the commission's proposals. President Bush supports creating a national intelligence director, though not with the full budgetary powers the commission had recommended.

Bush announced Tuesday his nomination of House Intelligence Committee Chairman Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla., as CIA director.

Halliburton's woes over Iraq war billing continue

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Halliburton Co. did not adequately account for more than \$1.8 billion it billed the government for work in Iraq and Kuwait, a published report on the findings of Pentagon auditors said Wednesday.

The results of the audit, reported by The Wall Street Journal, were the latest financial headache for Halliburton subsidiary KBR, formerly known as Kellogg, Brown & Root, which filed for bankruptcy protection last year to resolve billions of dollars in pending asbestos claims.

The \$1.8 billion amounts to 40 percent of the \$4.18 billion KBR has already billed the Pentagon for its work feeding and housing military troops. The Pentagon could begin withholding payments from KBR if it determines it is owed money — though it has yet to do so.

KBR officials told the newspaper the company has done nothing wrong, and expressed confidence the issue would be resolved without such action.

The fact that we have negotiated and continue to negotiate proposals proves that our estimating system is valid," an unidentified KBR official was quoted as saying. "This is the same system that the company has used for more than 10 years."

The audit, part of a report dated Aug. 4 that has yet to be made public, found that KBR's "internal control policies" are "inadequate for providing verifiable, supportable, and documented cost estimates that are acceptable for negotiating a fair and reasonable price." Pentagon officials told the newspaper that no defense contractor has had its estimating system ruled "inadequate" in years.

Halliburton spokeswoman Wendy Hall told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the company disagrees with the report.

"This audit has nothing to do with the amounts we have billed the government or which costs will ultimately be determined allowable for our work in Iraq," she said. "This report alleges that Halliburton does not have a system which is adequate to produce proposals upon which to negotiate final price and this allegation is simply not true."

Auditors' concerns included more than \$900 million in payments for dozens of dining facilities; auditors say that more than a third of those costs may be unjustified, the newspaper said.

In late morning trading Wednesday, Halliburton shares were down 32 cents at \$29.51 on the New York Stock Exchange.

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2 fallen Schweinfurt troops remembered

BY STEVE LIEWER
Stars and Stripes

Sgt. Armando Hernandez was a quiet Californian who played high school football, restored cars and grew up beloved in a family of women.

Spc. Anthony J. Dixon, brash and outgoing, wrestled competitively for his New Jersey high school and loved nothing better than tearing down the German autobahn in a rented BMW.

On Tuesday their helmets, rifles, boots and dog tags stood side

also carry with me the lessons in confidence, strength, bravery and joy that these two fine troopers reminded me of every day. I'm a better man for having known them."

Hernandez, 22, grew up in the desert town of Hesperia east of Los Angeles. After graduating from high school in 2000, he took some community college courses before joining the Army in January 2002 to "make something out of his life," family members told the Hesperia Daily Press.

Hernandez returned as an infantry mortarman at Fort Benning, Ga., then was assigned to Germany with the 1-4 Cavalry's Troop B. He earned the Expert Infantryman's Badge straight out of basic training and served as a squad leader, driver and assistant gunner since the unit deployed to Iraq in February.

Hernandez's fellow troopers remembered him as a dedicated soldier who did his job on-duty and liked to have fun off-duty.

"Mando was always there beside us with a big smile on his face," said Spc. Jayson Carter, his friend, in comments read at the memorial service. "I never had to worry when I went out, because I knew Mando would be there and he would have my back."

Hernandez's sense of duty stayed with him to the end.

"Even as he lay there on the road that terrible day," Trylich said, "he was asking about the welfare of his crew."

Dixon, 21, of Lindenwood, N.J., had grown up as the youngest of



MARGOT CORNELIUS/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

The boots, weapons, dog tags and helmets of Sgt. Armando Hernandez, left, and Spc. Anthony J. Dixon stand in tribute to the two 1st Infantry Division soldiers during a memorial service Tuesday in Schweinfurt, Germany. The soldiers were killed in Samarra, Iraq.

five children. He had a "wild and crazy spirit" that once caused him to climb a tall cellular phone tower on a dare, his niece Christina Dixon, 19, told the Courier-Post of southern New Jersey last week.

Joining the Army after high school two years ago added some discipline to Dixon's life, his family said. He enlisted in August 2002 with his best buddy and wrestling teammate, Adam Froehlich. They both landed in Germany, Dixon in Schweinfurt with 1-4 Cavalry and Froehlich 20 miles

away in Bamberg with the 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment.

They both deployed to Iraq in February, and they both died there. Froehlich was killed March 25, also by a homemade bomb.

Dixon's bubbly personality and his job as the driver for his unit's noncommissioned officer in charge, 1st Sgt. Ken Basley, made him well-known and popular throughout the 1-4 Cavalry.

"He was a great friend to his fel-

low troopers," Trylich said. "I can picture him now, laughing with his buddies and lifting the spirits of everyone around."

Basley wrote a tribute that was read at Tuesday's service.

"It's no secret that he was like my son. Everyone knew that I tried to protect him from anyone and anything," Basley said. "Dixon, I am sorry that I let you down. I told you I wouldn't let anything happen to you, so I am truly sorry. Please forgive me."

E-mail Steve Liewer at: liewers@mail.esr.pes.osd.mil



Dixon

Hernandez

by side on the altar of a chapel in Schweinfurt, Germany, nine days after the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment troopers died together in the explosion of a remote-controlled bomb as they stood guard next to a convoy in Samarra, Iraq. Friends and comrades gathered to remember them.

"The grief I feel for the loss of these good men I will carry with me for the rest of my life," said Capt. John Trylich, their troop commander in Iraq, in remarks read at Tuesday's service. "I will

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Four Sigonella sailors hurt in copter mishap

BY KENDRA HELMER
Stars and Stripes

Four sailors are in stable condition after their helicopter suffered a mishap Tuesday night while taxiing at Naval Air Station Sigonella.

The MH-53 Sea Dragon from Sigonella's Helicopter Support Squadron 4 was in a mishap resulting in a fire on the ground, said Navy Lt. Steve Curry, base spokesman.

The incident occurred at about 9:50 p.m. on the taxiway at the freshwater-wash station, where aircraft pull up for washing after flights.

"Somehow, there was a fire," Curry said.

He said it isn't known where the fire originated, or if the copter was in the wash station at the time.

It had just returned from a training flight.

Four crewmembers were onboard.

Three sailors are being treated at the base hospital for broken bones, contusions and bruising.

The other was taken to a local hospital.

No information was available on that sailor's injuries.

The crewmembers' names are not being released pending next-of-kin notification. Curry said the crew was comprised of two male officers, a male enlisted sailor and a female enlisted sailor.

Base and Italian firefighters, rescue crew and security responded to the scene. The fire was quickly extinguished.

Damage to the 99-foot-long copter is extensive.

"It appears the aircraft will be a total loss, however, a final determination has not been made," Curry said.

The cause of the accident is under investigation.

The squadron, HC-4, provides heavy helicopter combat support to the fleet in the European theater.

Four HC-4 sailors died in July 2003 when their helicopter crashed during a training flight.

E-mail Kendra Helmer at: helmerk@mail.esr.pes.osd.mil

Group enlists sailors' thoughts on cutting force

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Fleet Reserve Association opposes the U.S. Navy's planned reduction in force, but it wants enlisted sailors to weigh in on the issue and participate in a Web survey.

"We think the plan is flawed," said Michel Garrett, spokesman for the watchdog organization in Alexandria, Va. "It's a shortsighted policy to draw down troops in order to save money, and we think this will have a severe effect on morale."

"But we still want them to participate in the survey. The survey

is geared at getting a sense of what the enlisted Navy sailor thinks about what is happening," Garrett said.

The Navy plans to reduce its force by 7,900 active-duty sailors and 2,500 reservists in fiscal 2005, which starts Oct. 1. The FRA said the service has plans to cut the force by 40,000 officers and enlisted sailors over the next six years, but Navy officials said Wednesday there are no defined numbers beyond fiscal 2005.

Navy leaders have said the service is too big for today's needs, and that paring it down makes good fiscal sense. In March, Chief

of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark defended the plan, telling members of Congress that Navy's technology makes the service's equipment smarter and reduces the need for people.

"I don't want my sailors to think I would cut a sailor to build a ship ... but I don't want to invest one penny in a human resource the Navy doesn't need," Clark said.

But money is not the driving reason behind cutting the number of sailors, said Navy spokeswoman Sharon Anderson.

"We do expect cost savings," Anderson said, "as you would whenever you have fewer people,

but that's not the reason we're doing this. We're doing this to meet requirements."

Participants who complete the FRA's online survey do so anonymously since "members often are hesitant to criticize policy," Garrett said. By the same token, the organization has no way of gauging how many times a person might complete a survey or if they are an enlisted sailor or in the Navy at all, Garrett said.

"It's not completely scientific; we know that," Garrett said.

FRA is a professional military association that represents Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel on Capitol Hill.

"The input from this survey will assist FRA's advocacy efforts on behalf of active and reserve personnel serving in the U.S. Navy," FRA National Executive Secretary Joe Barnes said in a statement. "The Navy says that it can save \$1.2 billion to \$1.5 billion annually for each 10,000 sailors it cuts from the force. It fails, however, to give any clue as to the cost savings of cutting the same number of civilian or contract workers."

FRA is conducting a survey on its Web site at www.fra.org/survey. It opened Monday and runs through the end of September.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil

Bombing competition tests USAF pilots

BY RON JENSEN

Stars and Stripes

RAF LAKENHEATH, England — Fighter squadrons from throughout U.S. Air Forces in Europe will take part in a bombing competition known as Excalibur next week in England.

Squadrons from RAF Lakenheath; Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany; and Aviano Air Base, Italy, will compete with each other and two squadrons from the Royal Air Force to see which does the best job of putting bombs on target at two training ranges in England.

"There's a myriad of events," said Capt. Mike Ebner, an F-15E Strike Eagle pilot with the 492nd Fighter Squadron, 48th Fighter Wing, who has organized the event at RAF Lakenheath.

Crews will be judged on how well they drop BDU-33 dummy bombs from various angles, altitudes and speeds.

The two-day competition takes place Wednesday and Thursday. The winner will be announced at an awards ceremony soon after competition ends Thursday.

Maj. Clinton Mixon, chief of F-15 programs for USAF, said the idea to renew the competition came from Gen. Robert T. "Doc" Foglesong, USAF commander, who remembers Excalibur from his time serving in Europe as a fighter pilot years ago.

"He decided to resurrect the competition," said Mixon, who anticipates similar competitions in the future. "That's what General Foglesong envisions. That's what he'd like to see."

Competitors will include four aircraft from each squadron. The squadrons taking part are the 492nd Fighter Squadron and 494th Fighter Squadron from RAF Lakenheath, both flying F-15E Strike Eagles; the 22nd Fighter Squadron and 23rd Fighter Squadron from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, both flying F-16 Falcons; and the 555th Fighter Squadron and 510th Fighter Squadron from Aviano Air Base, Italy, both flying F-16 Falcons.

The Royal Air Force will send four Tornado aircraft from RAF Marham and four Jaguars from RAF Coltishall.

Mixon said the competitors would be judged not only on how close the bombs are to the target, but how well the crews followed the set parameters, such as angle of attack, altitude and speed. A crew might hit the target, but lose to one who did a better job of fitting the attack parameters even though they missed the target.

He said pilots would bring their egos to the competition and not want to embarrass themselves in front of their peers. They also will be representing their wings and their aircraft.

Ebner said, "Of course, everybody wants to win. Nobody wants to lose. Anytime there's a competition, you want to win. Guys will take it seriously."

Mixon said there is hope to expand the competition in the future to include other air forces.

"That is the plan — to invite as many of our NATO partners as we can," he said.

E-mail Ron Jensen at: jensenr@mail.stripes.osd.mil



Bulgarian dancers entertain Bulwark '04 troops



A group called the Ensemble for Folk Songs and Dances, from Sliven, Bulgaria, entertains more than 400 U.S. Army soldiers Tuesday at the Novo Selo Training Area in Bulgaria. The dance troupe performed a variety of traditional Bulgarian songs and dances as exercise. Bulwark '04 hears its completion. U.S. Army Europe and U.S.-based soldiers will return to their home stations over the next week.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL TOLZMANN
Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Blue to Green recruiters ready

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Army recruiters in the Kaiserslautern military community are ready to help Air Force and Navy members enlist in the Army under a new program designed to boost the service's ranks.

The Army has 30,000 billets to fill in the next two years and hopes to entice sailors and airmen to switch uniforms. At the same time, the Air Force and Navy are moving to downsize their forces.

The Army's Operation Blue to Green

program is meant to fill its quota with eligible servicemembers in grades of E-1 to E-5. The Army is looking in particular for enlisted personnel whose Air Force Specialty Code or Navy rate convert directly to an Army Military Occupational Specialty, Army officials said.

For more information on Operation Blue to Green, contact the U.S. Army Recruiting Station on Pullaski Barracks in Kaiserslautern or Capt. Sgt. 1st Class Celeste Major, station commander, at DSN: 489-7072 or commercial: 0631-536-7072. 7163. The Army Web site also has informa-

tion at: www.goarmy.com/btg/index.htm

Cheerleading camp planned

Kaiserslautern High School in Germany will hold a cheerleading camp over the Labor Day weekend for high school cheerleaders across Europe.

The camp is being run by the Universal Cheer Association, the largest cheerleading camp and competition company in the world, conducting more than 1,100 sessions of camp each summer, according to a news release about the event.

"Participants are taught several cheers, sideline chants, dances, partner stunts and safety techniques," said camp coordinator Jane Varalli. "Students leave with better skills, better techniques. They also learn about teamwork and how an individual contributes to the success of a team."

The camp is open to all students in grades 9-12. The cost is \$95 and is payable at the door.

For more information, contact Varalli at DSN 489-7541 or commercial +49-631-54354.

From staff reports

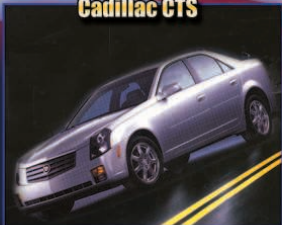
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IN THE STATES

U.S. government revamping airline screening program

BY LESLIE MILLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than two years and millions of dollars ago, it seemed like a good idea: develop a computerized system that checks airline passengers' backgrounds to make sure they're not terrorists.

But so many people objected to one part of the plan or another that the government is scrapping major portions of the project, the Computer-Assisted Passenger Pre-screening System, commonly known as CAPPS II.

The makeover will include a new name, though that, too, is turning out to be a dilemma for the Homeland Security Department.

The working title, "Secure Passage," was abandoned because it had the same initials as another aviation security program. In a city that loves its acronyms, it's best not to double up.

No one thinks a name change alone will be enough to resurrect CAPPS II.

Dennis McBride, director of the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, a research institute that focuses on science and technology, was briefed by Homeland Security officials on CAPPS II's progress last week.

"Getting there from here won't be easy," McBride concluded.

The Homeland Security officials working on the project are likely to get rid of one element that CAPPS II's critics dislike: making sure people are who they say they are by running their personal information against commercial and government databases.

Any new system would probably have a different process for verifying identity, according to Homeland Security officials.

Another problem is how to give airline passengers

the ability to correct mistakes if they're wrongly identified as terrorists or suspects.

Homeland Security spokesman Dennis Murphy said the department is working on that.

"That's something we clearly intend to test, to have a process for people to get redress if they feel that they're being screened unnecessarily or too frequently," Murphy said.

But what's really needed, say CAPPS II's numerous critics, is for the project's developers to drop their passion for secrecy.

Business Travel Coalition chairman Kevin Mitchell said CAPPS II wouldn't have become a political debacle if Homeland Security officials had been open about how the system was supposed to work.

The coalition is an advocacy group that tries to lower the cost of business travel.

"It was badly handled," Mitchell said. "It scared everybody. The lack of transparency and inclusiveness is what really doomed it."

Mitchell said privacy advocates and airline passenger groups might not have objected so strenuously to CAPPS II if they'd been included in the project's development.

"People would have been able to contribute solutions and buy into the process," Mitchell said.

But privacy advocate David Sobel thinks CAPPS II may be so fundamentally flawed that no amount of reshaping or repackaging can save it.

Sobel characterizes CAPPS II as a secret system of surveillance on tens of millions of people who fly on commercial airlines.

"It's a fundamental dilemma that arises when the government attempts to use intelligence information against average citizens," said Sobel, general counsel for the Electronic Privacy Information Center, a Washington-based research group.

9/11 panel seeking to expand no-fly list

BY DAVID KRAVETS

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The Sept. 11 commission wants the government to expand the no-fly list airlines now check to keep suspected terrorists off planes, consolidating as many as 12 secret lists maintained by different intelligence agencies.

That worries the American Civil Liberties Union, which has already sued the government, saying the airlines' effort to keep terror suspects and other dangerous people off planes endangers innocent passengers and subjects them to unnecessary searches and delays. Also, the government provides no way for those wrongly named to get themselves removed.

"Right now, if you're on the list, you're in a no-fly jail. There is now no way out of this," said Barry Steinhardt, the director of the ACLU's Technology and Liberty Project.

Commissioners agree the government has a "definite interest" in ensuring the protection of passengers' civil liberties as well as their safety. Their report, however, didn't spell out how the government should improve its checks and balances for the watch lists.

In lawsuits filed in San Francisco and Seattle, the ACLU has demanded the government ex-

plain how wrongly flagged travelers — usually targeted because they have names similar to those on the list — can get off it. The ACLU also wants to know how many people are on the list.

"They have to make the best efforts to make sure it's accurate and has to have a procedure to make sure people mistakenly identified can get off the list," Steinhardt said.

U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer, who privately reviewed the government's "sensitive" data, ordered the government in June to further explain why it hasn't disclosed certain documents in response to the ACLU's Freedom of Information Act request.

Breyer said the government has refused to say why the number of people on the list should not be disclosed. He also wonders why the government classified its procedure for adding names to the list as "non-disclosable sensitive security information."

"In many instances, the government has not come close to meeting its burden, and, in some cases, has made frivolous claims of exemption," Breyer wrote.

Authorities have repeatedly refused comment on Breyer's ruling or questions about the no-fly list.

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La. serial killings suspect guilty in one death

BY MELINDA DESLATTE

The Associated Press

PORT ALLEN, La. — A suspected serial killer faces a mandatory sentence of life in prison after a jury convicted him of second-degree murder in the beating and stabbing death of a 21-year-old woman.

A jury took less than two hours Tuesday to find Derrick Todd

Lee guilty in the slaying of Gera-lynn DeSoto.

Lee, 35, still faces two first-degree murder charges carrying possible death sentences in other cases.

DeSoto was found stabbed and beaten to death and her neck slashed in her home in the town of Addis the day she registered for graduate school at Louisiana State University in January 2002.

When the verdict was read, Lee was on his feet, leaning on a table. He did not react. His family stared straight ahead as the jury

of six women and six men was polled, while DeSoto's mother and father broke down and cried. The defense said there would be an immediate appeal.

Eleven jurors voted for conviction and one chose not guilty.

Ten guilty votes were required for conviction of second-degree murder.

"All I wanted was 10. The fact that we got 11, I'm happy," prosecutor Tony Clayton said.

Outside court, DeSoto's family refused to comment. Relatives of other alleged victims said they

were pleased with the verdict, although several expressed concern about the lack of a unanimous verdict.

DeSoto's death was linked to Lee after he was arrested in May 2003 in connection with a string of five slayings that terrorized people from Baton Rouge to Lafayette for more than a year.

Police eventually alleged that DNA evidence linked Lee to the murders of seven women between April 1998 and March 2003.



Derrick Todd Lee

Fed sees future interest rate increases

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve, anticipating an acceleration of economic growth after the current slow patch, strongly hinted it doesn't plan to take a breather in its campaign to push interest rates higher to keep inflation under control.

Economists had believed the Fed might pause in its credit tightening in September. But now they are saying they fully expect a third rate increase to come at the Fed's Sept. 21 meeting.

The central bank raised rates Tuesday for the second time this year, pushing its target for the federal funds rate up from 1.25 percent to 1.5 percent.

That move was immediately followed by a quarter-point increase in commercial banks' prime lending rate, the benchmark for millions of consumer and business loans, which climbed from 4.25 percent to 4.5 percent.

Analysts said the Fed sought to project a sense of confidence that the economic slowdown was not a threat to derail the current expansion.

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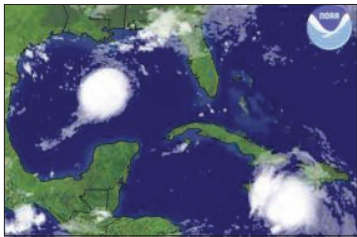
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NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION/AP

Tropical Storm Charley, lower right, over the Caribbean Sea, and Tropical Storm Bonnie, upper left, over the Gulf of Mexico, are shown in a NOAA satellite image taken at 7:45 a.m. EDT Wednesday.

Two tropical storms headed toward U.S.

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Back-to-back tropical storms took aim at Florida as they strengthened Wednesday, with Bonnie chugging across the Gulf of Mexico toward the already-wet Panhandle and a stronger Charley prompting emergency officials to order visitors to evacuate part of the Florida Keys.

The National Hurricane Center issued a hurricane watch for the middle and lower Florida Keys from Dry Tortugas to Craig Key.

A watch means hurricane conditions are possible within 36 hours.

Hurricane watches were posted for western Cuba and Jamaica, and a hurricane warning was issued for the Cayman Islands.

Most of northwest Florida, from the Alabama line to the Suwannee River, was under a tropical storm warning and a hurricane watch and could expect Bonnie's wind and rain on Thursday, the hurricane center said.

The storms also threatened to produce rain along wide sections of the East Coast.

Officials confirm tapes seen

FBI, police knew in 2002 about Las Vegas videos

BY JOHN SOLOMON

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Freed from a judge's gag order, FBI officials and Las Vegas police confirmed Tuesday night they learned in the fall of 2002 about two videotapes suggesting terrorists had cased the city's casinos but decided it wasn't necessary to alert the public.

The officials also strongly disputed they didn't take the evidence seriously, as suggested in Justice Department documents obtained by The Associated Press and by a federal prosecutor in Detroit who alerted them to the evidence and spoke publicly of his concerns this week.

The tapes were shown to casinos in the fall of 2002, officials said, but they added there was differing recollections about whether some local officials declined a later opportunity to learn more about the surveillance from an FBI agent from Detroit who had worked on the case.

"We took the tapes seriously," Special Agent David Nanz in Las Vegas said in an interview. "When we get a tape like that ... further investigation is required to determine its relevance. And that's what we did."

Nanz said, however, his office agreed with colleagues in Detroit that both tapes amounted to terrorist surveillance. "We don't dispute those were surveillance tapes," he said.

In documents and interviews reported by AP on Monday, authorities in Detroit alleged as early as September 2002 that Las Vegas authorities didn't want to issue a public warning because of concerns it might hurt tourism or affect the casinos' liability. Las Vegas authorities denied Tuesday those factors affected their decision.



UNITED STATES JUSTICE DEPARTMENT/AP

An image from a United States Justice Department evidence video shows the sign of the Excalibur hotel and casino in Las Vegas. The Justice Department obtained video surveillance tapes in 2002, suggesting terrorists were targeting Las Vegas.

Nanz said one of the two tapes, the Spanish al-Qaida footage, was still classified at the time and Las Vegas authorities weren't immediately told that a witness, named Yousef Hninnssa, would corroborate the threat on the Detroit tape by saying members of a terrorist cell in Detroit had vowed to destroy the tourist city.

"The FBI in Las Vegas was not made aware in advance that Hninnssa's testimony would implicate security issues with Las Vegas," he said.

After several Las Vegas authorities said Monday they never knew about the tapes, Clark County Undersheriff Douglas Gillespie researched the issue Tuesday and confirmed two of his officers had indeed seen the footage and that authorities also offered the opportunity for the casinos to likewise view the footage.

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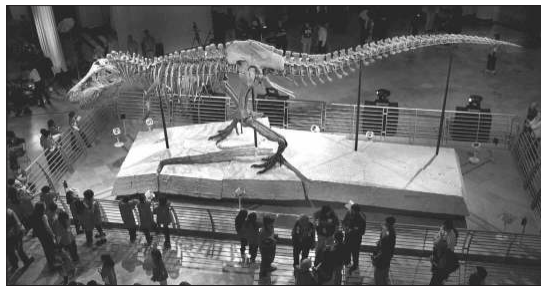
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See, the largest and most complete *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton ever found, is on display at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

T. rex bulked up as teen, died early

BY MALCOLM RITTER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Here's a dinosaur finding that parents can appreciate: The teenage *Tyrannosaurus rex* typically went through an explosive growth spurt, gaining nearly 5 pounds a day.

During that spurt, from ages 14 to 18, the creature picked up most of its eventual adult weight of around 6 tons, new research indicates. It stopped growing around age 20 and apparently died by age 30.

T. rex was "the James Dean of dinosaurs — it lived fast and died young," said Gregory Erickson of Florida State University, one of the scientists presenting a study of the reptile's growth pattern in Thursday's issue of the journal *Nature*.

In contrast, he said, while an African elephant's growth reaches a plateau at around the same age and weight, that animal lives past age 50.

The work offers a partial answer to a long-standing question about dinosaurs: How did they get so

big? Did they grow slowly for a long time, like ancient crocodiles? Or did they grow very quickly for a shorter period? Or was it a combination? The question must be studied separately for various kinds of dinosaurs, experts said.

T. rex was one of the largest meat-eaters ever to walk the land when it died out some 65 million years ago. At an elephant-like 6 tons, it stretched about 40 feet to 45 feet long and measured about 13 feet tall at the hip. The adult skull alone was 5 feet long, with teeth up to a foot long.

Thomas Holtz Jr. of the University of Maryland, who didn't participate in the new study, called it important and said it could help answer other questions about T. rex. For example, he said, it looks like the creature got so big after age 12 that it might not have been able to run as fast as before. So maybe it stopped running after prey and turned more to either scavenging or ambushing its meals, he said.

The research is consistent with the hypothesis that younger T. rexes often separated a victim from its herd so "the big bruiser parent could take it down," Holtz said.

Still no arrests in W.Va. sniper case

A year's gone by since three were killed outside convenience stores

BY ALLISON BARKER
The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Not old enough to drive, 15-year-old John Patton spends hours each week in the red sports car parked in his driveway.

But it's not the prospect of hitting the road that drives his interest. The Pontiac Firebird belonged to his mother, and is one his last remaining links to the woman who was slain a year ago in a sniper-style shooting while pumping gas at a convenience store about 10 miles from Charleston.



Carrier



Patton

One year after 31-year-old Jamie Patton and two others were killed outside separate

Kanawha County convenience stores, a special federal-state-city-county task force has yet to make an arrest despite the promise of a \$100,000 reward. The investigation has pursued about 4,000 leads at a cost approaching \$1 million.

"We're hopeful the attention the one-year anniversary brings will have a positive impact on the investigation and renew the public's interest in the case," said Joe Ciccarelli, supervisory senior resident FBI agent in Charleston, who heads the task force.

The shootings started on Aug. 10, 2003, when Gary Carrier Jr., 44, was killed while talking on a pay phone outside a Charleston Go-Mart store.

Four days later, Patton and Okay Meadows Jr., 26, were shot

within 90 minutes of each other at convenience stores about 10 miles apart. Meadows was buying milk at a pay window.

The victims didn't appear to know each other, but all were shot in the neck and head area with the same .22-caliber rifle — the most popular small-caliber rifle in the state.

No motive has been determined.

From a high of about 150 officers last summer, the task force now has only a core dozen investigators from the Charleston Police Department, the Kanawha County Sheriff's Department and federal agencies to probe the apparently random shooting deaths.

Aside from vague descriptions of a white heavyset man with thinning hair and a goatee, and a gossamer security video tape, there's not much evidence police are willing to discuss. Even the initial description of the dark-colored Ford F-150 extended cab pickup seen in the area of Patton's and Meadows' shootings was questioned because of conflicting witness statements.

Jamie Patton's parents have expressed concerns that the families haven't been kept up to date on the investigation.

To push the investigation along, Patton's family rented a highway billboard not far from where she was killed seeking information by promoting the reward. The billboard came down earlier this year when politicians rented the space for the May primary.

Ciccarelli said the task force has had victims' families as much as they can and met last month to discuss the case. Thousands of flyers with information about the reward also have been distributed to law enforcement agencies and convenience stores.

Mike Wallace arrested

NEW YORK — "60 Minutes" correspondent Mike Wallace, arrested in a dispute with city parking enforcement inspectors, says he wonders why anyone thought that he, at 86, was a threat.

Wallace was handcuffed and taken to police precinct headquarters after the incident Tuesday evening outside. He was released after being issued a summons citing him with disorderly conduct.

The dispute began as Wallace was leaving an Upper East Side restaurant, WCBS-TV reported. Wallace saw two Taxi and Limou-

sine Commission inspectors interviewing his driver, who they said was double-parked outside the restaurant.

The TLC said Wallace approached the inspectors and became "overly assertive and disrespectful," interfering with their ability to perform their duties, according to WCBS.

Wallace laughed off the notion. "I'm an 86-year-old man," he told the Post. "For whatever reason, this guy and his buddy were intent upon telling me that I was interfering with the execution of the law."

From wire reports



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Franks: Kerry qualified to be top commander

BY WILLIAM C. MANN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Retired Gen. Tommy Franks, producer of the early military successes in Afghanistan and Iraq, said Sunday that criticism of John Kerry's war record is political hyperbole and Kerry is "absolutely" qualified to be commander in chief.

A year into retirement, Franks also said he has not decided whether to endorse President Bush for re-election. "I don't know yet. I'm leaning in that direction," he said on ABC's "This Week."

Franks, whose hometown is Midland, Texas — where the president and first lady Laura Bush grew up — has been making television appearances in recent days to

publicize his just-published memoirs, "American Soldier."

"Do you think Senator Kerry is qualified to be commander in chief?" Franks was asked.

"Absolutely!" he said.

But like the criticism of Kerry, the retired general said the Democratic nominee's recent harsh words about the war plan Franks created in Afghanistan was motivated by politics and his failure to capture al-Qaida network leader Osama bin Laden.



Franks

"I think a presidential election year is a marvelous thing. I think Senator Kerry is a patriot. And I think what — what we're doing is, we're seeing an attempt to sort of draw the lines between the two parties in a television ad sponsored by a group that fashions calls itself Swift Boat Veterans for Truth."

The characterization of Kerry as a coward and liar who did not earn the medals awarded him for his Vietnam service came in a television ad sponsored by a group that fashions calls itself Swift Boat Veterans for Truth.

Kerry was skipper of one of the small Mekong River boats and received the Silver Star and Bronze Star for valor and three Purple Hearts for wounds.

"I really work hard to stay away from hy-

perbole," Franks said.

"People ask me all the time about 'Fahrenheit 9/11' and then others will ask me about some equally vitriolic view at the end of the continuum on the conservative side."

"I believe that life really is someplace between the two," Franks said, "and so I am not a fan of hyperbole, whether it is for or against Senator Kerry or George W. Bush."

Franks said he also has not decided whether he would want to speak at the Republican National Convention.

"I'm a fiercely independent kind of guy and rather proud of it," Franks said.

Bush, McCain nix Kerry proposal to cut troops in Iraq

BY PETE YOST
The Associated Press

CRAWFORD, Texas — President Bush opposes Democratic rival John Kerry's timetable for withdrawing U.S. forces from Iraq, and Sen. John McCain suggested Wednesday that even more troops may be needed.

Kerry said this week that he hoped to begin reducing U.S. troop strength in Iraq within six months of taking office, if elected, but that it would depend on broader international assistance, better stability in Iraq and other factors.

Bush dismissed the plan as a politically driven one that would cut short the mission and aid the enemy.

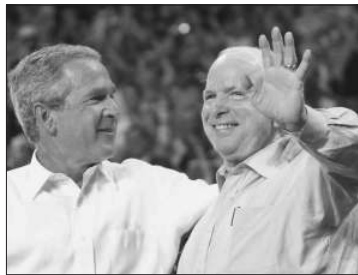
"The key is not to set artificial timelines," Bush said Tuesday while campaigning for re-election in Niceville, Fla. He said the Mas-

sachusetts senator's plan would signal the enemy that, "Gosh, all we've got to do is wait them out."

McCain, who accompanied Bush, said both he and the president would have to bring the troops home tomorrow, but that any such plan depends on the situation in Iraq. On Wednesday, a roadside bomb exploded near a Baghdad market, killing at least six Iraqis, as insurgents battled U.S. forces in the seventh day of fighting in Najaf.

"I think the events on the ground right now indicate clearly that we cannot bring anybody home," McCain, R-Ariz., told ABC's "Good Morning America" in an interview Wednesday. "In certain areas we may even have to strengthen our troop presence in the form of special forces and others."

"So I just don't know how you



President Bush and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., greet the crowd at the Pensacola Civic Center during a rally Tuesday in Pensacola, Fla.

do that. I just don't know how you achieve it without knowing the facts on the ground six months from now," the senator said from Bush's ranch, where he spent the night after a bus tour with the president on Tuesday through the military rich and heavily Republican Florida Panhandle.

Bush was likely to show McCain

around the ranch, aides said, before they leave for campaign events Wednesday in Albuquerque, N.M., and Phoenix just days after Kerry passed through.

Bush lost New Mexico by 366 votes in the 2000 presidential election. He managed a narrow win in Arizona, which has voted for the Democrat only once in the past 14 White House campaigns.

Kerry woos seniors by focusing on drug costs

BY MARY DALRYMPLE
The Associated Press

HENDERSON, Nev. — John Kerry wants to funnel seniors' anxiety about rising prescription drug prices into a drive to bring more older Americans out to vote for his Democratic presidential ticket.

His campaign was launching an effort Wednesday to identify, organize and mobilize seniors across the country while Kerry was pressuring President Bush to allow Americans to purchase cheaper prescription drugs from Canada.

"With rising care costs and a dragging economy, our seniors and families are squeezed like never before," Kerry said in remarks prepared for delivery. Kerry said in remarks prepared for delivery.



Kerry

Kerry's campaign announced plans to expand state efforts nationwide to register and encourage older voters to vote, including events at senior centers and retirement homes and a later campaign to inform older voters about absentee ballots and accessible polling sites.

Brand-name prescription drug prices rose more than three times the rate of overall inflation last year, according to recent studies by AARP and Families USA.

Congress enacted a Medicare prescription drug benefit to help seniors cope with the increasing cost of medicines. Democrats and Republicans have locked horns ever since over whether the program will significantly lower drug costs for seniors.

Democrats, including Kerry, say the drug benefit means a windfall for drug companies and some health insurance companies at the expense of seniors.

Ad-tracking company helps campaigns strategize

BY LIZ SIDOTI
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Va. — In a nondescript office building just south of Washington, researchers watch hundreds of political ads captured daily from the nation's television airwaves.

The ads and details about them are shipped to campaigns, parties and interest groups, providing strategists with snapshots of their opponents' and allies' on-air activities.

Campaign Media Analysis Group, a political ad tracking service, has the marketplace cornered, sending information each day to Republican and Democratic party committees, major House and Senate candidates and several national interest groups.

But at least one other company, Nielsen Media Research, is trying to make inroads.

Still, for eight years, CMAG has been the place political professionals have turned for day-to-day pictures of the political advertising landscape as they determine where to run ads, how much money to spend and what messages to project.

"If you have the money, they're indispen-

sable," said Bill Benoit, who studies political ads at the University of Missouri-Columbia. "It's extremely important for campaigns — or political parties or third-party groups — who want to keep tabs on what the other side is doing."

And, with laws now prohibiting federal campaigns from coordinating strategy with independent groups, Benoit said, CMAG data also is invaluable for allies looking for guidance about where to help out their preferred candidates.

The company started in the early 1990s as the research arm of National Media, a Republican media powerhouse. In 1997, Evan Tracey left that firm to create CMAG, hiring ex-Capitol Hill staffers and one-time campaign aides from both sides of the aisle. Since then, the company has grown, becoming a division of commercial ad tracker TNS Media Intelligence last year.

Despite Tracey's GOP background, CMAG is nonpartisan with clients from all political persuasions. "We're in the business of politics, we're not political," Tracey said.

Each day, his analysts — numbering rough-

ly a dozen in an election year — monitor the nation's top 100 local media markets, which cover 85 percent of the country, as well as national cable networks and Spanish-language channels. By the fall, they will screen 500 political ads a day.

Within a few hours of a new ad being broadcast, CMAG's software plucks it from the airwaves. For anywhere from \$15,000 to \$150,000 or more per race, clients receive the ad, a story board breaking it down frame by frame, and charts and graphs showing where the ad ran, how many times it was broadcast, the estimated spending and the sponsor.

Strategists call CMAG priceless for local, state and issue advocacy campaigns, as well as House and Senate races, allowing campaigns to know precisely what voters are watching and what their opponents and interest groups are saying.

Before CMAG, candidates and parties mainly relied on networks of volunteers to tape ads aired in their districts using VCRs. Tapes would arrive at campaigns days later. That's now the exception rather than the rule.

With CMAG, strategists have same-day knowledge about what's going on in a race.

IN THE WORLD

4 killed in Turkey train crash

The Associated Press

TAVSANCIL, Turkey — Two trains collided head-on in northwestern Turkey on Wednesday, killing at least four people, injuring 55 others and sending emergency crews in a frantic search for survivors.

Rescue workers in orange and blue jumpsuits, one holding a white body bag, climbed on top of a smashed locomotive that flipped over in the collision near the village of Tavşancıl in Kocaeli province, some 50 miles east of Istanbul.

The accident happened after a train traveling from Ankara to Istanbul ignored a signal and failed to stop at a junction, Cemal Yaman, an official of a local branch of the train workers' union, told the Anatolia news agency. The other train was traveling from Istanbul to Adana, officials said.

"One of the trains passed a red



Rescuers work at the scene of a fatal head-on collision of two passenger trains near Tavşancıl in northwestern Turkey on Wednesday.

light," Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Gül said. "When (engineers) noticed, he tried to reduce speed but unfortunately the accident occurred."

The train traveling from Ankara was carrying 153 passengers and nine crewmembers, the Anatolia news agency said.

Four passengers were killed and 55 people were injured in the crash, Gül said.

Survivor Mahmut Yannis told CNN-Turk television the accident

happened after his train left Tavşancıl station.

"When I went out of the car, I saw the decapitated body of a conductor trapped at the gate of the locomotive," said Yannis, who had stitches on his head and scratches on his arms.

"I saw the passenger sitting next to me dead. Body pieces were scattered everywhere," he said.

Television footage showed firefighters climbing cars to rescue people. Others could be seen cutting through the side of wrecked cars.

The accident comes just weeks after a newly inaugurated high-speed train from Istanbul to Ankara derailed, killing 37 people — one of the worst train accidents in Turkey. Three days later, a passenger train slammed into a mini-bus at a railroad crossing in western Turkey, killing 15 people and injuring four others.

8 held in Turkey hotel bombings

By JAMES C. HELICKE

The Associated Press

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Turkish police have detained eight people allegedly linked to Kurdish rebels for bomb attacks against two hotels in Istanbul and a liquefied gas plant, police officials said Wednesday.

A previously unknown Kurdish group claimed responsibility for the pre-dawn bomb attacks Tuesday that killed two people and wounded 11 others. An al-Qaida-linked group also

Another police official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity, said that explosives used in Tuesday's attacks were similar to those used in a July car bombing in eastern Van province that killed three people and wounded two dozen others. That attack was blamed on Kurdish militants, who denied involvement.

The Sahab newspaper, citing police sources, reported on Wednesday that the detonator in the attacks matched the one used in an assassination attempt against the governor of Tunceli province last year. Four Kurdish militants were arrested this week in that attack.

A senior Turkish police official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Turkish authorities had no information to suggest any links to al-Qaida

The Germany-based Mezo-potamya News Agency, which often publishes rebel statements, said Tuesday it received a telephone call from an individual claiming responsibility for the attacks. The name of the Kurdistan Freedom Falcons Organization.

The group carried out the attacks because of recent

Kurdish military operations against the rebels.

Kurdish rebels battling Turkish troops in the southeast for autonomy have intensified attacks lately. The rebel group, known as KONGRA-GEL, but formerly known as the PKK, threatened to target the country's tourism industry and infrastructure when it broke a unilateral cease-fire on June 1, saying Turkey had not responded in kind.

Analysts have said that the rebels appear to have recently split into several factions. It was not immediately clear if the Kurdistan Freedom Falcons Organization was one such group.

U.S. professor released

BELING — The United States is protesting China's treatment of a Chinese-born American university professor who was detained for two weeks on espionage charges, calling it harsh and inappropriate, the U.S. Embassy said Wednesday.

Fei-ling Wang's arrest was the latest in a string of cases against academics with ties to the United States. He was arrested July 25 in Shanghai, though the United States was not alerted until Aug. 4. He was released Aug. 5.

Wang, a naturalized American citizen, told U.S. diplomats that he was held in solitary confinement for four days and at times deprived of sleep and water, an embassy spokeswoman said on condition of anonymity.

From The Associated Press

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Palestinian killed by bomb in West Bank

BY GAVIN RABINOWITZ
The Associated Press

KALANDIA CHECKPOINT, West Bank — Palestinian militants detonated explosives near a busy West Bank checkpoint Wednesday, killing an elderly Palestinian man and wounding 15 people, both Israelis and Palestinians, in the first bombing attack in a month.

Hours after the blast at the Kalandia checkpoint, north of Jerusalem, it remained unclear whether militants had targeted the checkpoint, or detonated the explosives prematurely when being approached by Israeli security forces.

In targeting the checkpoint, where thousands of Palestinians pass every day, the militants would have had to know there was a high probability of Palestinian casualties. In the past, Palestinian bombings, while targeting Israelis, have on occasion killed or wounded Arabs.

Israeli officials gave conflicting accounts on how the explosives were detonated — stashed in a car, planted on the ground or carried by a suicide bomber. About an hour before the explosion, Israeli security forces had received warnings that a Palestinian bomber was en route to Jerusalem, and set up additional checkpoints near Kalandia.

The Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a violent group with ties to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility. It said it detonated the blast by remote-control to avenge the killing of a leader by Israeli troops last month.

At the scene, black smoke rose from a smoldering car, as firefighters tried to douse the flames, near a pool of blood.

A 60-year-old Palestinian man, Salah Abu Snehneh, was killed in the blast. Three other members of his family were wounded, including his 6-year-old grandson, Mahdi, who was in critical condition, according to Ramallah hospital officials. Seven more Palestinian bystanders were hurt.



Israeli army soldiers stand next to a pool of blood as they secure the area Wednesday after an explosion next to the Kalandia checkpoint between Jerusalem and the West Bank town of Ramallah. The explosion killed a 60-year-old Palestinian man and wounded 13 people, both Palestinians and Israelis.

Three members of the Israeli border police also were wounded, hospital officials said.

In all, three of the wounded in Israeli hospitals were in serious condition.

Wednesday's bombing was the first since July 11 when Palestinian militants set off explosives near bus stop in Tel Aviv, killing a soldier and seriously wounding at least five people. In recent months, the pace of Palestinian bombing attacks has slowed considerably, compared to the first three years of the current round of fighting, which began in 2000.

Shanghai finds little success making rain

BY CHRISTOPHER BODEEN
The Associated Press

SHANGHAI, China — Shanghai is trying to make it rain by firing chemicals into clouds in hopes of snapping an electricity-draining heat wave, but early attempts have mostly been a bust, newspapers reported Wednesday.

Rain fell for about 20 minutes in the coastal district of Fengxian following an attempt Tuesday, but temperatures downtown still hit 95 degrees, the reports said.

A first attempt last week was aborted after a cloud seeding plane ran into heavy weather and turned back.

Officials said they were still experimenting.

The main aim yesterday was to get familiar with the whole process," Wang Jin, an official with the city weather bureau was quoted as saying by the Shanghai Daily.

For decades, China has tried to make rain by firing shells containing silver iodide into clouds from ground artillery or planes.

The chemical helps attract water vapor that turns into rain drops, but scientists aren't sure how effective the technique is at increasing rainfall.

Desperate for cooler temperatures, Shanghai has budgeted \$573,000 for cloud seeding and

has invited experts from the northern province of Heilongjiang to serve as consultants, Shanghai Daily and other papers reported.

Three thousand silver iodide shells have been stored at a military airport in the nearby city of Wuxi, ready for use when clouds are deemed ripe for seeding, the reports said.

Weeks of high temperatures have severely strained Shanghai's electricity grid, already sapped by massive increases in demand from factories and residents who now can afford refrigerators and air conditioners.

The city has forecast an electricity deficit of about 4 million kilowatts this summer — enough power to light 4 million homes.

Thousands of factories have been forced to switch to non-peak hours, and lighting and air conditioning in public places has been turned down. Seeking respite from the heat, poorer residents camp out on sidewalks and parks.

Unusually high temperatures this summer have been blamed for at least 40 deaths across China.

The western city of Chongqing, where officials have ordered air raid shelters open for people escaping the heat, recorded a high of 102 degrees on Wednesday.

Serbia-Montenegro son to bid farewell to Yugoslav anthem

BY MISHA SAVIC
The Associated Press

BELGRADE, Serbia-Montenegro — "Live, live, spirit Slavic, you will live for centuries," their anthem promised Yugoslavs, when inaugurated in 1945 with the birth of the communist federation of six republics. Now, that hymn is about to follow the nation into oblivion.

Such heroic phrases ring hollow in the ears of Belgrade residents. Reduced to two republics after the mostly violent secession of the others, Yugoslavia was formally replaced last year by Serbia and Montenegro. And worse may still be ahead, with the government of Montenegro determined to cut the last ties and become independent as soon legally feasible.

Some nostalgia lingers for the old Yugoslavia in Serbia, the dominant republic in the old federation. Still, with parliament soon planning to vote out the "Hej Sloveni" ("Hey Slavs"), few in Belgrade appeared sorry Wednesday to see the old anthem go.

"It was a completely communist thing," said retired Draganin Stevanovic, 74. "I hated it even while there was Yugoslavia."

Milena Blazevic, 51, acknowledged still feeling excited when hearing "Hej Sloveni."

"But it's sad now, it's like a ghost," she told a reporter.

Legislators had planned to vote on retiring the old anthem in favor of the new one on Wednesday. But that was postponed after Montenegro deputies asked for more time to reflect on the measure.

The proposed new anthem takes a segment of a nationalistic Montenegro hymn out of part of the anthem of pre-1918 Serbia.

Still, Serbia and Montenegro are together in name only.

Fittingly, the Serbian half of the musical mix — "Boze Pravde" ("God Give Us Justice") makes no mention of the Montenegrins as it entreats God to "hear Thy Serbian children's voices; be our help as in the past."

In turn, the Montenegrin segment, "Oj, Svijetla Majka Zoro" ("Oh, The Bright May Dawn"), focuses exclusively on the Montenegrins. "Our mother, Montenegro," it says, "We are the sons of your rocks."

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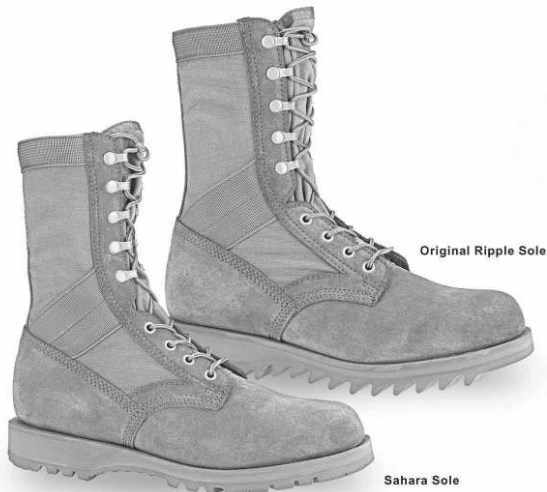
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Brits issue cloning license for stem-cell study

By EMMA ROSS

The Associated Press

LONDON — Britain granted its first license for human cloning Wednesday, more than three years after becoming the first nation to authorize the technique to produce stem cells for medical research.

A team of researchers at Newcastle University hope eventually to create insulin-producing cells that could be transplanted into diabetic patients.

Britain became the first country to authorize the cloning of human embryos when Parliament voted in 2001 to allow regulators to license the method to scientists in-

vestigating the medical promise of stem cells, the master cells of the body.

The South Korean parliament followed in December, and by February scientists there announced they had become the first in the world to successfully clone a human embryo and extract stem cells for research.

The stem cells are extracted when the embryo is still microscopic. British regulations allow the embryo to develop for no more than 14 days, after which the embryo starts to develop a nervous system.

Many scientists believe stem cells hold vast promise for treating an array of diseases

from diabetes to Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. Stem cells can potentially grow into any type of human tissue and scientists hope to be able to direct the blank cells to grow into specific cell types needed for transplant.

The United States prohibits any kind of embryo cloning and has lobbied strongly against it. The Bush administration also has restricted funding for stem cell research, which has become an issue in the presidential campaign.

Stem cells can be found in adults, but scientists believe they may not be as versatile as those found in embryos. They envision using cloning to create an embryo cloned

from a patient so that stem cells extracted would be a perfect transplant match.

"After careful consideration of all the scientific, ethical, legal and medical aspects of the project, the Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority License Committee agreed to grant an initial one year research license to the Newcastle Center for Life," the British regulator said in a statement. "This is an important area of research and a responsible use of technology. The HFEA is there to make sure any research involving human embryos is scrutinized and properly regulated."

Regulations on cloning and stem cell research vary around the world. No other European country licenses the practice.

French ceremonies a tribute to veterans of 'Forgotten D-Day'

By JOCELYN GECKER

The Associated Press

PARIS — Historians call it The Forgotten D-Day.

But former Staff Sgt. John Shirley and a handful of aging veterans vividly recall that day — Aug. 15, 1944 — when they stepped onto the French Riviera and delivered up support to Hitler's diminishing army.

"We didn't hit any mines, but we did run into German machine guns and rifles," said Shirley, a squad leader who lost five of his 12 men storming ashore near St. Tropez in the Provence landings.

"Maybe it was a sideline to the big fights up north, but it was a very important invasion," said Shirley, 79, contacted at his home in Livermore, Calif.

Codename Operation Dragon, the Provence landings came 70 days after the D-Day landings in Normandy and were smaller in scale and Allied losses than the famed attack on June 6, 1944.

"The Normandy landings were a spectacular operation that everyone knows about, and we commemorate it with enormous fanfare," said French historian Andre Kaspi. "Then, there are the Provence landings that are more or less forgotten, but nonetheless essential."

In all, an estimated 300,000 Allied soldiers stormed France's Mediterranean shores from Toulon to Cannes, part of an Allied strategy for a two-front offensive that would send German troops into a closing pincer.

As part of 60th anniversary celebrations that started in June — and to let veterans know they are no mere historical footnote — France is paying official thanks to the southern invasion with a week-

end of ceremonies. President Jacques Chirac caps the tributes Sunday aboard an aircraft carrier with 16 leaders from participating African nations and a few hundred veterans.

Among them will be Shirley. Again, he will lead a dozen Americans — now veterans, mostly in their 80s — this time on a package bus tour that some say will be their last trip to the former battlefield.

Advancing age and infirmity make this year's D-Day ceremonies particularly poignant for those who helped free Europe from Nazism.

"This is my last hurrah. I'm sure of it. I don't want to wait another 10 years," said 84-year-old former First Lt. George Burks.

He, like Shirley, fought with the 15th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division.

Operation Dragon was to have coincided with the June 6 Normandy assault, but there were no landing craft to spare. When it finally happened, paratroopers bore much of the brunt.

Thousands of paratroopers, mostly American and British, preceded the amphibious operation, in drops north of the coast. Under heavy fog the night of Aug. 14, 1944, many fell miles off target into the sea and drowled.

La Motte, north of St. Tropez, was the first village liberated in Provence and will host the weekend's first ceremony Saturday.

Nine British veterans will be decorated with France's Legion of Honor.

Defense Minister Michele Alliot-Marie will pin nine American veterans with France's most prestigious decoration later Saturday.

The invasion's success was measured in concrete terms: Hitler ordered German forces to retreat from the south on Aug. 17, two days after Operation Dragon started.

Spain shows off rare tiger cub



A rare blue-eyed white tiger plays in a wildlife center Tuesday in Benimantell, Spain, where it was born three months ago. The tiger called Artico, Spanish for Arctic, is a rare breed of Bengal tigers. Only 20 such tigers are believed to exist — all in captivity — in the world.

EFE/AP

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Demonstrators wear masks and sit at sewing machines as they protest Tuesday against working conditions in the sportswear industry in Athens. The ancient Acropolis is seen in the background.

AP



Activists seek Olympic stage

BY TRACY WILKINSON
Los Angeles Times

ATHENS, Greece — They positioned 13 white crosses on the asphalt in front of the cream-colored Greek Parliament and chanted loudly about the deaths of construction workers killed while building the massive infrastruc-

ture for the Olympic Games starting on Friday.

"The Olympics are built on the blood of the workers!" the protesters cried, as the sun set behind the Acropolis on the horizon.

"The Olympic celebrations cannot hide what has happened," declared an union leader, Andreas Zazopoulos.

Solemnly, they hung small wreaths on the crosses, each representing one of the six Greeks and seven Albanian immigrant workers killed on the job in the summer games run-up.

With thousands of journalists and TV cameras eagerly available and the world spotlight focused here, the Olympics serve as an ideal platform for political and social causes. What better venue for airing issues that range from freedom for Tibet, to returning the Elgin marbles to Greece, to demanding better treatment for garment workers? And so it was Tuesday, three days before the games actually start.

"They told us to wait until after the games finished to do this, but how can we wait?" said George Mavrikos, head of the leftist All Workers Militant Front, which organized Tuesday's protest over construction deaths.

"We cannot withhold the truth," he proclaimed over a loudspeaker that echoed through downtown Athens' central Syntagma Square. "This is the true Greece."

In addition to the 13 men killed while working on hurried construction of Olympic venues during the last two years, more than 200 workers were seriously injured, the activists said.

The official fatality rate — sev-

eral union officials said many more actually had died — is higher than in other Olympic cities in the past, and the Los Angeles Times earlier this year verified the findings of an internal Greek government report that described egregious safety violations. These included workers wearing flip-flops and no hardhats; a lack of safety belts for those working at heights; open pits without protective covering.

Construction protest was not the only subject of protest Tuesday.

Garment workers, who said they work in slave-labor conditions in Indonesia, Turkey and elsewhere to fill the orders of U.S. sportswear labels, staged their own demonstration.

Atop a central Athens hotel under a searing sun, protesters wearing white masks to symbolize the anonymity of the workers filed into a bank of sewing machines and began to work, the whir of the machines the only sound during the silent demonstration.

Organizers said the purpose of the protest was to attract attention to the entire sportswear industry — not just the T-shirts marketed at the games.

A 6-month-old campaign has succeeded in persuading some large multinational clothing corporations to insist on better working conditions for the mostly women who sew their products, the activists said. But the Olympics committee has ignored their pleas, they said.

Protests will continue Wednesday when women speak out against countries, including Saudi Arabia, that have banned women athletes from their Olympic delegations.

Pen gun possession

ATHENS, Greece — A Greek man was arrested at Athens International Airport early Sunday after a loaded pen gun was found in his carry-on luggage before he boarded a flight to a Greek island, police said.

The 30-year-old man, whose name was not immediately released, was preparing to board a domestic flight to the eastern Aegean Sea island of Mytilene when police found the pen gun, loaded with a 22-millimeter bullet. The gun, which was attached to the man's keys, resembles a pen but can shoot a bullet.

Police said the man was arrested for violating Greece's gun laws and was charged Monday.

Arroyo: No kisses

MANILA, Philippines — Annoyed by a stream of unwanted kisses, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo warned overzealous male fans and supporters Wednesday that to avoid embarrassment they should not pucker up in her direction.

"First, show some respect. Secondly, I am conservative. I do not want to be kissed by any man but my husband," she told a town hall meeting in Laguna province, south of Manila.

Arroyo often receives kisses on both cheeks by unknown admirers in a practice known locally as "beso-beso" ("kiss-kiss").

"Please, tell the men in the country, so that I won't be rude to you, do not attempt to kiss me," she said.

Cat in plane cockpit

BRUSSELS, Belgium — An SN Brussels airliner made an emergency landing after a cat got into the cockpit and attacked the co-pilot, the airline said Tuesday.

The Monday flight from Brussels to Vienna, Austria, had been in the air about 20 minutes when "it was noticed" that a passenger's pet had escaped from its cage, "although it is not yet clear how," according to an airline statement.

The cat slipped into the cockpit when meals were being delivered to the two-man flight crew, it said.

"At this stage, the animal became agitated and nervous," it said. An airline spokeswoman added that the cat scratched the copilot's arm.

The pilot decided to return to Brussels as a precaution, and the 58 passengers left Brussels two hours later on another flight.

From The Associated Press

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YOUR MONEY

Homeowners seek change to Calif. foreclosure laws

Lawmakers trying to ban neighborhoods from selling houses because of late fees

By JIM WASSERMAN
The Associated Press

CHULA VISTA, Calif. — When Melissa Colburn first opened the letter that said her home had been sold for \$5,150 in a foreclosure auction, she thought it was a joke.

It wasn't. Her private community's homeowners association, upset Colburn was late with \$990 worth of dues, had sold her two-bedroom town house in this San Diego suburb without telling her or taking her to court, using a process called nonjudicial foreclosure.

After months of legal battles, Colburn has her home back. But she and those of others like her have galvanized homeowners seeking to change the legal system governing what has become the fastest-growing neighborhood lifestyle in the country — neighborhoods run by private associations.

As millions of Americans have moved into the nation's 260,000 privately run neighborhoods, they've been hit by rules on pets

and door colors and hemmed by restraints on landscaping. If they're late with their dues to maintain common areas, sometimes for as little as \$120, the associations, backed by a network of property managers and attorneys, can foreclose on their homes.

Despite a growing backlash, lawmakers throughout the nation have failed to make major changes. California, however, stands on the verge of banning foreclosure entirely in many instances, making nonjudicial foreclosure more difficult and rolling back the fee system that makes foreclosure lucrative to a small cadre of lawyers.

If approved this month by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, these changes will reshape how these neighborhoods work, especially how they collect their dues once residents get behind or don't pay.

Homeowner associations have boomed over the last three decades, largely because of fewer services provided by

cash-strapped local governments and consumers who want rules to govern their neighbors' aesthetic tastes.

Like California, associations in Florida, Texas, Arizona and Nevada all have authority to ultimately collect their members' unpaid assessments by selling their homes. Combined, the five states have more than half the nation's supply of association-governed housing.

In Las Vegas, Judi Burns lost her \$130,000 home when a judge upheld her association's March 2000 foreclosure sale over unpaid dues of \$300. In Arizona, Evelyn Lyons nearly lost her home over \$393 in unpaid monthly assessments. An anonymous donor paid when media accounts of the pending foreclosure described her battle with breast cancer.

Unlike municipal governments coping with late property tax payments, studies show that homeowners associations are quicker to seek foreclosure and for sums far less than the average late tax bill. Mortgage lenders also typically wait longer to foreclose and



Melissa Colburn is shown outside her home in Chula Vista, Calif., on Tuesday. Colburn said she nearly lost her home because of unpaid homeowner association dues.

work harder to find alternatives, says Doug Duncan, chief economist of the Washington, D.C.-based Mortgage Bankers Association.

California lawmakers aim to rein in what critics call "foreclosure factories," law firms and collection agencies that earn \$1,500 to \$2,000 filing nonjudicial foreclosure proceedings against homeowners behind on dues.

"They go in there and find a resident who gets a little behind and hit him with an assessment, and then tack on thousands of dollars in attorneys' fees," said Evan McKenzie, an Illinois political science professor who wrote the 1994 book "Privatopia," a history of U.S. homeowners associations.

An unofficial survey of California's homeowners association filings released in June reported 19,450 foreclosure filings since 1999 in California and 145 homes sold for unpaid assessments.

Homeowners' association attorneys vigorously defend their practices and cast late-paying homeowners as the bigger threat to association life. Some say lawmakers are responding to a disgruntled 3 percent of homeowners.

But the California Legislature is days away from passing legislation to throw out foreclosure entirely as a method for homeowners' associations to collect debts under \$2,500.

It's a bipartisan movement, mo-

tivated in part by the high-profile cases of Colburn and retirees Tom and Anita Radcliff, who for a late payment of \$120 lost their \$285,000 home in Calaveras County, the Sierra Nevada foothills setting for Mark Twain's celebrated Gold Rush jumping frog story.

Associations "need to look at other debt collection procedures before they go to these extreme measures," said Democratic state Sen. Denise Ducheny, the leading force in California behind curbing foreclosure powers.

Molly Foley-Healey of the Virginia-based Community Associations Institute, the national lobbying arm of private communities, called California's approach an anti-consumer bill masquerading as a benefit to consumers. She said homeowners will cut paying dues up to \$2,500, forcing associations to punish other residents with higher dues to make up losses.

Nationally, CAI officials and homeowner activists are also watching, knowing California's reputation for change that often spreads to other states.

"If California succeeds in this, that's going to send shock waves across the country," says Marjorie Murray, lobbyist with the Congress of California Seniors, which sponsored the bill because many retirees live in private communities. Among its other supporters: the 36 million-member American Association of Retired People.

MONDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES				
52-week High	Low	Name	Last	Net Chg %
10,533.61	1,901.11	Dow Jones Industrial	9,844.66	+3.11 -0.31
3,212.45	526.38	Dow Jones Transportation	2,970.08	+4.00 +0.13
226.15	22.46	Dow Jones Utilities	224.43	-0.86 -0.38
6,712.52	543.97	NYSE Composite	5,727.55	+1.77 +0.03
1,728.81	93.73	AMEX Index	1,217.54	-3.34 -0.27
2,153.62	146.88	Nasdaq Composite	1,777.42	-2.25 -0.12
11,632.31	965.84	S&P 500	1,065.22	+1.25 +0.12
47,511.51	3,491.26	S&P 500 VIX	24.42	+0.17 +0.70
696.42	449.97	IMM Futures	518.38	-1.27 -0.24
11,371.14	928.56	DJ Wilshire 2000	10,311.80	+13.96 +0.14

NYSE				AMEX				NASDAQ				
Most Active (\$1 or more)				Most Active (\$1 or more)				Most Active (\$1 or more)				
Name	Vol	Cost	Chg	Name	Vol	Cost	Chg	Name	Vol	Cost	Chg	
Exxon	22,291	29.48	+0.83	Novartis	78,355	32.82	+0.12	Microsoft	51,476	27.18	+0.44	
Greif Bros	19,969	31.85	+0.11	SPDR	86,119	40.49	+0.15	Intel	43,642	22.57	-0.20	
Time Warner	14,938	15.51	+0.04	44	Sanofi-Sintabo	30,354	-1.11	3M	35,654	2.48	-0.11	
Norfolk	11,768	3.51	+0.08	79	Johnson	49,759	49.49	+0.35	Intel	43,642	22.57	-0.20
ExxonMobil	11,249	45.56	+0.44	DAI	49,294	94.48	+0.45	3M	35,654	2.48	-0.11	
Verizon	11,068	3.51	+0.02	Johnson	49,759	9.54	+0.09	Apple/Mail	24,120	15.51	-0.18	
Goldcorp	10,897	30.26	+0.28	SP	29,628	27.13	-0.31	Centrica	22,586	1.67	-0.18	
Yield	9,844	19.68	-0.17	SP	29,628	27.13	-0.31	Sinclair	12,534	1.67	-0.18	
UBS	8,612	6.53	-0.01	SP	29,628	27.13	-0.31	JDS Uniphase	10,909	1.67	-0.18	
Textbook	8,584	19.68	-0.07	SP	22,137	13.95	+0.45	3M	35,654	2.48	-0.11	

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS				
Name	Div	FE	PE	YTD % Chg
Alliant Techsystems	-	14	57.79	-2.14 -0.41
Airbus	-	33	34.76	+4.22 +0.12
Boeing	-	30	42.04	+0.88 +0.21
Comptech Systems	-	27	42.04	+0.88 +0.21
Electronic Data Systems	-	27	42.04	+0.88 +0.21
General Electric	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28
General Motors	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28
Harris Corp.	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28
Lockheed Martin	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28
Northrop Grumman	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28
Raytheon	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28
Rockwell International	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28
Textron	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28
United Technologies	-	21	31.86	+3.11 +0.28

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS				
Name	NAV	NAV	NAV	YTD % Chg
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	
Fidelity Investor Growth	34.52	-0.20	-0.6	

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		\$1 =
British pound	0.51	\$1.96
Japanese yen	100	0.0074
S. Korean won	1,215.00	0.0008
Commercial rates		\$1 =
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377	\$2.65
British pound	0.51	\$1.96
Canada (Dollar)	0.71	\$1.41
Denmark (Krone)	6.80	\$0.15
France (Euro)	6.55	\$0.15
Hong Kong (Dollar)	0.71	\$1.41
Hungary (Forint)	200	0.005
Israel (Shekel)	4.52	\$0.22
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.298	\$3.35
Norway (Krone)	4.66	\$0.21
Philippines (Peso)	55.80	\$0.018
Singapore (Dollar)	1.714	\$0.58
S. Korea (Won)	11,555	\$0.00008
Switzerland (Franc)	1.46	\$0.68
Thailand (Baht)	1,445.27	\$0.00069
Turkey (Lira)	1,445.27	\$0.00069
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for U.S. military personnel.)		
Netherlands and the United Kingdom	0.68	\$1.47
For non-U.S. currency exchange rates, see the U.S. State Department website (www.state.gov).		

PRECIOUS METALS				
London close		\$ per ounce		
Gold	592.60			
Silver	36.46			
Palladium	1,111.00			
Platinum	1,111.00			
Gold	592.60			
Silver	36.46			
Palladium	1,111.00			
Platinum	1,111.00			
Gold	592.60			
Silver	36.46			
Palladium	1,111.00			
Platinum	1,111.00			

INTEREST RATES				
Prime rate		Annual %		
Discount rate	2.25			
Federal funds market rate	4.25			
3-month bill	4.25			
6-month bill	4.25			
1-year bill	4.25			
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America, Bloomberg.com				

Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

Make job-hunt work

CBS MarketWatch

NEW YORK — Job work was down in July, but if you're looking for a new gig, don't let that slow your quest. Remember that job-hunting is practically a full-time position.

When you're searching for a job, it's easy to become discouraged and slip into an everyday routine that doesn't involve looking for work. So no matter how you fill your time with part-time work, watching car-

toons or helping out around the house — be sure to do at least one job-hunting activity each day, recommends Stacy Kravetz in a new book, "Welcome to the Real World."

Even if you're waiting for responses from the applications and résumés you've sent out, continue to network, research companies and seek out new opportunities. For example, for each day you don't have an interview, commit to completing and sending out one job application or résumé.

Stripes Travel



PHOTOS BY MONIQUE WELLS/Discover Paris!

A table laden with wine and cheese varieties awaits members of the "Paris — A Culinary Delight" tour at La Ferme Saint-Aubin in Paris.

A taste of Paris

Food tour caters to black Americans

BY VEVLYN L. WRIGHT

Special to Stars and Stripes

I am not looking forward to this. Yet here I am, at about 12:30 on a mild, partly sunny Thursday afternoon to do the heretofore unthinkable.

I enter La Ferme Saint-Aubin, one of the most famous cheese shops in the world, located on the Ile Saint-Louis in Paris. An employee leads me down a flight of almost impassable stairs to a 17th-century cave where the shop's cheeses are fermented and prepared for sale. Here, owner Christian Le Lann is holding forth on the anatomy of cheese and cheese-making.

To my surprise, I am not repulsed by the odor emanating from his stock. Like others gathered for "Paris — A Culinary Delight," an excursion that organizer Monique Wells is billing as Paris' first Afrocentric culinary experience, I am soon absorbing some of the vast knowledge that Le Lann is so enthusiastically imparting.

He says La Ferme stocks the best Rochefort in France; that brie is consumed in such large quantities that it is now produced in more places than just the town of Brie; depending on its age, cheese can taste like fruit or chocolate; and some monasteries make cheeses that they wash in a liqueur made from walnuts. Yum.

For more information on the tour "Paris — A Culinary Delight" or the Web site "Discover Paris!," contact Monique Wells or Tom Reeves by mail at 442 Panorama Drive, Mohegan Lake, N.Y. 10547, USA; by phone at (212) 688-9351; or by e-mail at info@discoverparis.net. The address for "Discover Paris!" is www.discoverparis.net.

After the primer, the group is led back upstairs to the shop to view the same cheeses displayed in the showroom. Then, we are ushered into a back room. Spread on a table are several cheeses, breads and bottles of red and white wine. We sample several cheeses, including a creamy Chaource and an even creamier Mont d'Or, the pride of the Haut-Doubs near the Swiss border.

"It's delicious. It's the creamiest cheese, so light," says Shelley Bradford-Bell of San Francisco and Paris. Before serving, Mont d'Or is soaked in warm water while still in its container, put into the oven for about 15 minutes, then spooned out.



Photo courtesy of Discover Paris!

Monique Wells, organizer of "Paris — A Culinary Delight," and Eric Duchossy discuss coffee beans. Duchossy's coffee roasting facility was one of the stops on the first day of the tour.

SEE TOUR, PAGE 24

TOUR, FROM PAGE 23

"It tastes like butter, it's so light," Bradford-Bell adds. "It doesn't taste cheesy, if you know what I mean. It doesn't have an aftertaste."

Little else is said, leaving me to deduce that it is difficult to eat good cheese and talk at the same time.

And so it goes during the rest of the three-day trip to Paris, the inaugural tour of organizer

Wells, a scientist, co-owner of a travel-planning service and author of a Paris travel guide and soul food cookbook.

Her goal is twofold. First, to have black Americans with an interest in the culinary arts explore aspects of a traditional French meal — bread, cheese and wine — and French confections — pastries, chocolate and coffee. Second, to promote black American culinary professionals who live and work in Paris — including Percy Taylor, the proprietor of Percy's Place, advertised as the only black-American-owned restaurant in Paris, and the site of one of the tour's dinners.

While the target audience is black Americans, it is not for black Americans only, Wells emphasized.

Other tour stops included the Poilâne bakery on rue du Cherche-Midi, the Gerard Mulot bakery at rue de Seine and rue Lobineau, chocolate-makers Debaube & Gailais and the Dédicé Café, a popular eatery that opened two years ago.

The Poilâne bakery, founded by Pierre Poilâne in 1932, is the home of the oval-shaped bread called a *miche* or *boule* and, to some, sourdough. It exports bread to Britain, United States and Japan and its products are sold throughout France.

We crowd our way into the bake room, where it is sweltering, and flour is everywhere and impossible to avoid. We watch a cookie-making demonstration, and then watch as a Rube Goldberg-type machine peels and cores the apples that are used in some pastries.

And one cannot visit the site where, according to legend, the best bread in the world is made without a small demonstration on how it is done. Alas, there is no bread to sample. But there are butter cookies fresh out of the oven, a special way to end the visit.

The stop at the Gerard Mulot bakery marks the start of the dessert-lovers tour led by pastry

chef Klancy Miller of Le Cordon Bleu cooking school.

In the display windows of this 25-year-old bakery sits an eye-popping, mouthwatering, artery-clogging variety of interesting and enticing desserts in a rainbow of colors. There is *mille feuille* pastry lined with cherries, strawberries and raspberries, and tarts with apple, fig, plum and strawberry, grapefruit, orange and tangerine. There are macarons in raspberry, black currants, rose, pistachio, cinnamon, caramel, lemon, this, that and the other, as well as an impressive selection of chocolates.

Then it's on to Pierre Hermé, the eponymous boutique owned by the superstar pastry chef and cookbook author known the world over for his fanciful and delicious confections.

Here, the small display window is partly tinted, and only a few cakes can be seen, with some effort, from the sidewalk. All so discreet. Housed in a short, narrow space that speaks more of a bank with its generous appointment of dark wood, it should be noted, is an audacious selection of *moeux au chocolat*, fruit cake with almonds, assorted chocolates, this, that and the other, as well as various kinds of cookies.

Next stop: Debaube & Gailais. "This is all chocolate," Miller whispers with reverence and gravity before we enter the shrine.

Known as the chocolate makers to the kings, Debaube & Gailais is the oldest house of chocolate in France, having served not only the royal, but also the rich, renown and regular folk. The company prides itself on producing chocolates made from pure cocoa, with the minimum of other ingredients, including sugar, because of the health benefits and superior taste.

A clerk behind the 184-year-old half-moon-shaped counter gives a talking tour of the shop, along with a sample of orange peel covered in chocolate to the delight of the chocoholics. One can buy chocolate bearing the likeness of such Paris landmarks as the Eiffel Tower and the glass pyramid at the Louvre. Also available are the tried-and-true: assorted boxes of chocolate and the solid squares, a modern version of the *pistoles* favored by Marie Antoinette.

The tour's last stop is the Dédicé Café. Over a menu that features innovative twists on traditional French cuisine, Calvin Brown of Upper Marl-



PHOTOS BY MONIQUE WELLS/Discover Paris!

Young apprentices prepare small loaves of dough for baking at the Poilâne Bakery in Paris.

boro, Md., puts into practice the wine knowledge he and his comrades acquired the day before from sommelier Melba Allen during a field trip to the Chemin des Vignes winery just outside Paris.

En route to the restaurant, Brown had explained the difference between a good and a not-so-good wine: After it is poured,

he says, "You shake it around the glass and look at the wine draining down the side as it takes the shapes of legs. If it comes down slowly that wine has good legs and is a good wine. If not, it is not a good wine."

The verdict? Both wines we order have good legs. To this pronouncement a collective sigh goes up — along with empty wine glasses.

After nearly three hours of dining, during which many tales are told and laughs shared between bites and sips, party members kiss French style on both cheeks. Then they bid one another *adieu*, having had a delectable time exploring Paris' culinary delights.

Vivian L. Wright is a freelance writer who lived in Paris before returning recently to the States.

This summer enjoy Europe in style!

PROJECT
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and
PROJECT
SMART
ACTIONS

are always in fashion!



Tour members relax with food and drink at Percy's Place, advertised as the only black-American-owned restaurant in Paris.



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n Paris — c

It's possible to see the City of Light without going broke

BY CAROL PUCCI
The Seattle Times

I was having what my friend Harriet Welty calls a "Paris moment."

Sinking into a red armchair on the outdoor terrace of the Café Marly at the Louvre, I watched I.M. Pei's glass pyramid shimmering in the sunlight. A waiter in a black suit brought coffee and a silver pitcher of hot milk.

It was 8:30 a.m. In a few hours, the terrace would be filled with well-dressed Parisians sipping wine, smoking and lunching on meals priced far above my budget, but for now, and a little more than what the new Paris Starbucks charges for a tall latte in a paper cup, the front seat was mine for as long as I wanted.

My bill was \$6, but as Welty, the author of two books on the French and their customs, taught me, there are times when getting your money's worth in Paris has nothing to do with how much you spend.

Six dollars for a seat facing the museum's palace courtyard was a bargain, considering a tourist café on a busy street around the corner charged \$5 for a view of parked cars and a perfume shop. The coffee at the Louvre was a luxury I made up for in the next few days as I went on a mission to find ways to stretch the value of the shrinking dollar in one of the world's most expensive cities.

C'est la vie to the euro's 30-percent rise against the dollar in the past two years. The idea of not spending time in Paris never crossed my mind when I had a few days to spare on my way back from two weeks in Eastern Europe.

I wasn't alone.

"We keep talking about going other places, but Paris always draws us back," said Sandy Howell, who visited with her husband, Bob, a high-school principal, for the fourth time in April. Howell lives in Peoria, Ill., and moderates an Internet discussion group called Paris Qui, where she passes on money-saving tips.

"This year, our concerns were monetary. Our trip definitely cost us more."

The couple coped by buying a one-week pass for public buses and the Metro (\$17.50), using a phone card to make calls back home (\$18 for 120 minutes), discovering new neighborhoods on guided walking tours (\$12), eating their main meal at lunch instead of dinner, visiting museums on free days and booking their own train tickets to Chartres to see the cathedral there

rather than taking a tour.

"We could probably have saved more money by going to the smaller towns or even other countries, but Paris is where we wanted to be. It comes down to research," Howell said. "The more it costs, the more research I need to do, but I enjoy the challenge."

So do I. So tag along as I flip through my notebook and dig out some of my best finds.

The euro's climb has affected hotel prices.

"We haven't raised our prices in three years," a clerk at the two-star Hotel de la Place des Vosges said when I asked to see a room. But a double now costs \$128 per night, based on current exchange rates, compared with \$90 in 2001.

I had booked a hotel in the heart of the Latin Quarter for \$90 a night, then on the spur of the moment, canceled the reservation and contacted Alcove & Agapes, a bed-and-breakfast service that offers more than 100 rooms in Paris homes, with hosts ranging from artists to grandmothers.

I chose "grandmother," and met Claudine, 72, who welcomes guests in the century-old building near the Gare de Lyon train station where she's lived for 40 years.

My large double room with high ceilings and a flowered balcony was furnished with a double bed, antique bureau and oak table and chairs. I shared a large bathroom with another guest, a woman from Chicago. It was a minor inconvenience considering that for around \$80 including breakfast, I became part of a Parisian neighborhood.

Around the corner was a Metro stop with connections to the Louvre, Champs-Élysées, the Opera and all the museums, sites and shopping areas of central Paris.

A block away was an Internet café, a hip neighborhood street market. I wandered the stalls, chatting with farmers, nibbling on samples of foie gras and inhaling the smell of cheeses and fresh bread.

Each day, I walked 10 minutes along the rue de Lyon to the Bastille, a hip neighborhood known for its clubs and cafés.

Nearby was one of my favorite Paris neighborhoods, Le Marais. This is the Jewish quarter, and I love its wine bars, tea salons, galleries and browsing shops devoted to selling only paper, or chocolate or musical instruments.

Best of all was getting to know Claudine, a cheery woman who likes to listen to Sting and Arabi-



Local markets are great places to pick up fresh and inexpensive picnic supplies and sample local specialties in

an music, displays an American flag in her bedroom, and loves watching travel videos. She's learning English, and tacked to her refrigerator was a note that said "Would you like some tea?" a phrase she practiced on me several times a day.

Over a breakfast of croissants and coffee, we chatted as Claudine showed off photos of her daughter and grandchildren, who live in San Antonio, Texas, and a shoebox filled with postcards from her visitors from around the world.

"Today I'm walking to Bercy [a nearby neighborhood where old wine warehouses have been converted into shops and restaurants] to buy you a gift," she announced one morning. She returned with a bag containing a block of Savon de Marseille, an olive-oil soap from the south of France.

I felt as if I had found a new home in Paris, and best of all, a new friend.

I'd like to say that I went to as many museums as I could, but the truth is that my favorite Paris pastime is people watching. It's an activity that costs anywhere from \$2 to \$6, the price of a café

creme, glass of wine, beer or another cold drink. In a local café.

"It's what Parisians do all the time," said Francoise Foret, 35, a Paris native. "They order a coffee and a glass of water and sit there

for hours."

Location and neighborhood determine the price — as well as the people. Unless you're into watching other tourists, skip the Champs-Élysées and the new Starbucks next to a discount



Forget expensive taxi rides and buy a one-week pass for public buses and

on a budget



Photos by the Seattle Times/KRT

Paris. This market is near the Bastille in the French capital.

luggage shop near the Paris Opera, and wander down a back street or ride the Metro a few stops and explore a different area.

One of my favorites is the Bastille. This time, I stumbled



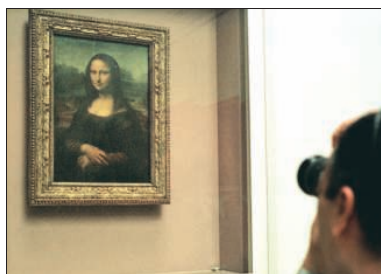
the Metro for \$17.50.

onto an arts-and-crafts fair and an antiques brocante, the French equivalent of an outdoor flea market, before wandering into the Bar L'An Vert near the rue de Lappe. I sat near the window on a chair upholstered in green velvet watching a man in red patent sandals, red socks, blue jeans and a T-shirt practice his pick-up lines leaning against the bar as an episode of "Fashion TV" played on a video monitor.

Another evening I whiled away an hour at the sprawling Café des Phares as roller-bladers whizzed by and a man with shoulder-length white hair played "La Bambola" on his amplified guitar. Three older men, one wearing plaid Bermuda shorts, followed with trumpets and tubas. I dropped a few coins into their paper cups, thrilled with the entertainment they provided literally for the price of a song.

Ten minutes away on the Metro from Place Saint Michel, the Latin Quarter's Tourist Central, is Le Bouquet d'Alesia, a brasserie filled with Parisians dining in pairs or alone in the company of a book and a \$3 glass of Burgundy.

There are hundreds of corner



The smart — or thrifty — tourist visits museums on free days.



Watching people costs nothing in Paris, and there's a lot to see. Here, a mother and daughter practice their cafe-sitting while looking at an entertainment guide.

cafés like this where food is served any time of day. (No waiting until 7 p.m., the earliest most restaurants open for dinner.) Two can eat for about \$20 a person with wine and dessert.

I was with my friend Jennerfer, who had been living in the neighborhood the past six months. The café tables in the front were filled with people smoking and deep in conversation over cups of espresso. Most places like this have a back section, and when we asked, a waiter in a long white apron and black bow tie led us to a quiet table set with folded pink napkins and a pink table cloth.

We chatted the next two hours over salads sprinkled with warm goat cheese and grilled sweet

peppers and glasses of chilled Chablis. The waiter didn't expect a tip, but we left one anyway. Perhaps it was because we were away from the tourist hub-bub, but our waiter smiled and spoke English in a friendly way rather than patronizing way I remembered from past visits.

"You have a wonderful experience at places like these," Jennerfer said. "It's more personal than a restaurant at Michelin star prices and you get to enjoy really good food."

When it was time to splurge, three of us headed one evening for Le Petit Troquet, a tiny, no-smoking restaurant with a handful of green leather chairs and marble tables on the rue de

l'Exposition near the Eiffel Tower.

The fixed-priced menu was \$35 per person. My chilled tomato soup, fish course and coffee and licorice ice cream were first-rate, but best of all was the show that followed. We walked off our meal with a stroll to the Eiffel Tower to see the lights that twinkle after dark for 10 minutes every hour. On a night like this, the view from the bottom was more impressive than a trip to the top, and best of all, it was free.

In this Paris visit, I road buses, took the Metro, walked, explored, got lost and discovered some parts of the city that were new to me. I stretched myself and by doing so, found that my dollars stretched, too.

Volksmarch

This weekend, the members of the Wanderfreunde Crailsheim e.V., hold their 39th Internationale Wandertage and 26th marathon.

Only 30 minutes from Rothenburg ob der Tauber, one of Germany's most popular tourist attractions, this is one popular volksmarching event — one of the most popular with Americans and Europeans alike.

The club is awarding a foot-tall ceramic walk figurine for completing the 6-, 12- and 20-kilometer

Jennifer West



trails. All three non-marathon marches begin on Saturday between 5:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. and again on Sunday, 5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The 42K marathon starts both days between 5:30 and 9 a.m. A patch will be awarded with a certificate. The Europa Marathon patch features the flags of countries of the IVV (International Volkssportverband, or International Federation of Popular Sports) blended into the design.

The Wanderfreunde Crailsheim e.V. club members are friendly, the trails are well organized and marked and there is plenty of parking available. And if you're in need of gas, an ESSO station (and McDonald's), too is right off A6 on the edge of town towards Rothenburg and A7.

Could you ask for more?

Speaking of Rothenburg ... if you start and finish your Crailsheim walk early in the morning, consider spending your afternoon visiting the walled city. Since you're already in the area, why not drive over and take advantage of your proximity to this picturesque and famous German town? What a way to spend a day — walking and sightseeing! ■ ■ ■

Miscellaneous notes about this week's volksmarch events:

■ Young-Walkers'-Tour, or Bambini-Liga, credit is available at the Crailsheim, Germany.

■ For these hikers around the Kaiserslautern Military Community, walk in Clausen, Germany, and take home a nice Porta Nigra B-medal mug as your prize. Expect woods and hills on these trails near Pirmasens, especially the 20K. Start the 6K and 10K each day between 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. and the 20K between 7 a.m. and 1 p.m. The finish time is 5 p.m.

■ Wednesday's march in Nieder-Wiesem, Germany, offers walkers an opportunity to start the 6- and 10-kilometer events until 7 a.m. — great for those who want to walk after work. A neckerchief is the souvenir.

■ Bring a cup for free refreshments at the German walking clubs of Köln-Worringen, Mainz-Gonsenheim and Uchtelangen.

■ In Mainz-Gonsenheim, Germany, the start times for both days are as follows: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the 5K; 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the 10K; and 7 a.m. to 1

Country/Town	Day(s) and Time(s)	Code	Km.	Starting Point	Award	Directional Reference
Austria						
Gries am Brenner	Sun 0700-1200	F	5 & 10	Sattelbergbahn	Souvenir	S of Innsbruck
Belgium						
Bellevaux	Sat & Sun 0700-1500	-	4, 6, 12	Salle De Belva	No award	S of Malmsey
Bellevaux	Sat & Sun 0700-1500	-	20, 25, 30	Salle De Belva	No award	S of Malmsey
Denmark						
Fredericia	Sat 0900-1300	-	5	Taulov Centralskole	No award	NW of Odense
Fredericia	Sat 0900-1200	-	12	Taulov Centralskole	No award	NW of Odense
Fredericia	Sat 0900-1100	-	17	Taulov Centralskole	No award	NW of Odense
Fredericia	Sat 0900-1000	-	23	Taulov Centralskole	No award	NW of Odense
Ringe	Sat 1830	-	10	Espe Skole	No award	SE of Odense
Ringe	Sun 0800-1200	-	7 & 12	Espe Skole	No award	SE of Odense
Ringe	Sun 0800-1000	-	20	Espe Skole	No award	SE of Odense
Ringe	Sun 0800-0900	-	30	Espe Skole	No award	SE of Odense
Uvelse	Sun 0800-1000	-	6 & 12	Skole	Souvenir	SW of Skive
Uvelse	Sun 0800-1000	-	20 & 25	Skole	Souvenir	SW of Skive
Varde	Sat 1900	-	10	St. Jakobi Skole	No award	N of Esbjerg
Varde	Sun 0700-1100	-	5 & 12, 25	St. Jakobi Skole	No award	N of Esbjerg
Vesterhav	Fri 1900	-	10	Skole	No award	NW of Skive
France						
Westhouse	Sat & Sun 0700-1400	F	10 & 20	Hall de la Kiegrube	No award	S of Strasbourg
Germany						
Albaum	Sat 0600-1400, Sun 0600-1300	BFX	5, 10, 20	Schützenhalle	B-medal	NRW, NE of Olpe
Clausen	Sat & Sun 0700-1400	BFX	6 & 10	Grüfentsteinhalle	B-medal/beer mug	RP, NE of Pirmasens
Clausen	Sat & Sun 0700-1300	BFX	20	Grüfentsteinhalle	B-medal/beer mug	RP, NE of Pirmasens
Crailsheim	Sat 0530-1400, Sun 0530-1300	F	6, 12, 20	Volkfestplatz	Ceramic walk	BWN, E of Schwabach Hall
Crailsheim	Sat & Sun 0530-0900	M	42	Volkfestplatz	Patent & certificate	BWN, E of Schwabach Hall
Gersheim	Sat 0700-1600, Sun 0600-1300	F	5, 10, 20	Festbahnhalle	Coffee cup	THS, SW of Ulm-Schwenningen
Gersheim	Sat & Sun 0700-1400	F	6 & 10	Gesamtschule	Certificate	SAR, SW of Zweibrücken
Gersheim	Sat & Sun 0700-1300	F	20	Gesamtschule	Certificate	SAR, SW of Zweibrücken
Gschwendia	Sun 0700-1400	F	6.5, 10, 20	Rathaus/Hemmtube	No award	THS, SW of Erfurt
Köln-Worringen	Sun 0630-1200	F	6, 12, 20	Sportplatz am Erdweg	No award	NRW, NW of Köln
Mageburg	Sun 0630-1000	F	13 & 21	Pechauer Park	Souvenir	SAN, Endstelle Linie 4
Mageburg	Sun 0630-1000	F	20	Mageburg-S-Bf	Souvenir	SAN
Mainz-Gonsenheim	Sat & Sun 0700-1600	F	5	Karl-Geib-Haus	Coffee cup	RP, Kapellenstr. 44
Mainz-Gonsenheim	Sat & Sun 0700-1500	F	10	Karl-Geib-Haus	Coffee cup	RP, Kapellenstr. 44
Mainz-Gonsenheim	Sat & Sun 0700-1300	F	20	Karl-Geib-Haus	Coffee cup	RP, Kapellenstr. 44
Nieder-Wiesem	Wed 0900-1900	F	5 & 10	Sportheim	Neckerchief	RP, SE of Bad Kreuznach
Nieder-Wiesem	Wed 0900-1700	F	20	Sportheim	Neckerchief	RP, SE of Bad Kreuznach
Oder bei Sternberg	Sat 1100-1500	Bike	25 & 50	Gasthaus Haller	Fisherman figurine	OPF, SE of Schwandorf
Oder bei Sternberg	Sat 1100-1500	Bike	5, 10, 20	Gasthaus Haller	Fisherman figurine	OPF, SE of Schwandorf
Tiefenbach	Sat & Sun 0600-1300	F	5, 10, 20	Wildburgshalle	Cow figurine	RP, NW of Bad Kreuznach
Uchtelangen	Sat & Sun 0600-1400	BFX3.5	5 & 10	SportKulturhalle	B-medal/umbrella	SAR, SW of St. Wendel
Uchtelangen	Sun 0600-1300	BFX3.5	20	SportKulturhalle	B-medal/umbrella	SAR, SW of St. Wendel
Velburg/Opf.	Sat 0600-1200, Sun 0600-1100	BFX	5, 10, 20	Schule	Owl	OPF, NW of Regensburg
Italy						
Flabiano	Sat 1730-1800	F	7 & 14	Palestra	Plate of food	E of Spillimbergo
Frisano	Fri 0830-0930	F	6 & 14	Parraggio Colonna	Souvenir	N of Mariga
Villanova Grutte-Luevera	Sun 0830-0930	FX	7, 13, 18	Piazza della Chiesa	Souvenir (1st 200)	E of Gemona
Luxembourg						
Rumelange/Rümlingen	Sat 0700-1400	F	6 & 12	Sporthalle	No award	SE of Esch-sur-Alzette
Rumelange/Rümlingen	Sat 0700-1200	F	20	Sporthalle	No award	SE of Esch-sur-Alzette
Rumelange/Rümlingen	Sat 0600-0900	M	42	Sporthalle	No award	SE of Esch-sur-Alzette
Netherlands						
Berg & Terbit	Thu & Fri 0800-1400	-	14	Café-leeftaal	Souvenir	E of Maasticht
Berg & Terbit	Thu & Fri 0800-1100	-	28	Café-leeftaal	Souvenir	E of Maasticht
Berg & Terbit	Thu & Fri 0700-0900	M	42	Café-leeftaal	Souvenir	E of Maasticht
Gulpen	Wed 1000-1500	-	5	Café Padock	No award	E of Maasticht
Gulpen	Wed 1000-1500	-	10 & 15	Café Padock	No award	E of Maasticht
St. Odilienberg	Mon 1630-1900	-	10	Café-Zak Bergarc	No award	E of Maasticht
Switzerland						
Teufen	Sat 0700-1300, Sun 0700-1200	-	5, 10, 20	Festmessaal Linde	Souvenir	S of St. Gallen
United Kingdom						
Davertry	Sun 0800-1400	-	5 & 10, 14 & 20	Football Club	Souvenir	NW of Northampton
Davertry	Sun 0800-1200	M	42	Sports Park	Souvenir	NW of Northampton
Everdon	Sun 1000-1100	-	10 & 20	The Plough	Souvenir	W of Northampton
Gosfield	Mon 1800	-	10	The Green Man	No award	NE of Banbridge
New Forest	Mon 1700-1800	-	10	Royal Oak	Souvenir	SE of Salisbury
Penistone	Wed 1830	-	5 & 10	Church	Souvenir	W of Barnsley

Above are events sanctioned by the International Federation of Popular Sports (Internationaler Volkssportverband, or IVV) near U.S. military installations in Europe. Find more extensive lists on the Web at www.ivv.org.

WALK CODES:

- B - Awards from past events available
- B-medals
- P - Shower or wash facilities available at start hall
- F - Free refreshment at control points
- M - Marathon or long-distance event
- N - Awarded trophy (see column notes for daytime)
- S - Shorter-friendly trails
- S - Shorter trail is noted in brochure
- X - Shorter-friendly
- X - Get award while supply lasts

GERMAN STATE AND REGION CODES:

- HE - Hessen
- MDV - München-Oberbayern
- NDS - Niedersachsen/Berlin
- NRW - Nordrhein-Westfalen
- NDB - Niedersachsen
- OPF - Oberpfalz
- RP - Rheinland-Pfalz
- SAR - Saarland
- SCH - Schwaben
- THS - Thüringen/Hamburg
- THS - Thüringen-Sachsen

p.m. for the 20K.

The volksmarch starts in the Karl-Geib-Haus on Kapellenstr. 44. Mainz-Gonsenheim is adjacent to a wild animal park (a hit with kids). The start is small but quiet and lies in an extremely popular walking area.

If the weather stays hot, sunny and dry, you should arrive early because parking will be tight. The area is relatively flat and although not advertised this time, the 5K trail usually is stroll-

er-friendly. A coffee cup with a flower motif can be your prize.

■ A coffee cup with cats on the outside and inside is the award at Furtwangen, Germany, for the 5-, 10- and 20-kilometer trails. They start noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday.

■ Notes about walks in Italy from our Italian columnist, Clark Soeldner: — The Frisano event is a mountain walk with stout grades,

especially on the 14K.

— There is a fest in conjunction with the Flabiano walk.

Villanova della Grotte-Luevera is a favorite walk in the mountains surrounding the Alta Valle. Toward the end, the route passes an old fortification.

E-mail your comments and Volksmarch information to Jennifer West at: volksmarch@nail.estrines.ods.mil. Write her at: Volksmarch Column, Stars and Stripes, Bldg. 2809, P.O. Box 1, APO AE 96227-3717 (MPS).

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Best Bets Let's Go

ATHENS: Of course, the Summer Games are in Athens, but there's more to discover if you're in the Greek capital this week-end. For instance, there's art in the Underground. Most subway stations in the central city have been enriched with works created by Greek artists, and cultural artifacts found during construction of the subway system. For more information, see www.ametro.gr, choose a language, then go to Public Information and click on "Art in Stations." For the Olympics, see www.athens2004.com.

BELGIUM: Brussels' 300-square-meter Grand Place in the city center will bloom this week-end for the annual flower carpet. About 700,000 begonias will be on view, watered by fountains. For a bird's-eye view, climb to the first floor of the Town Hall for 3 euros. It's open 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

GERMANY: The most famous of the Rhine in Flames events takes place Saturday between Spay and Koblenz. It was originally staged in 1766 as an event to honor Johann Philipp von Walderdorff, the prince elector. Today, 80 ships travel the 10 miles from Spay via Braubach, Rhen, Rhens and Lahnstein to Koblenz's German Corner (where the Rhine meets the

Mosel). There, at 11 p.m., the Ehrenbreitstein fortress will be illuminated.

Also in Germany, travel back to Roman times during Trier's "Bread and Games" Roman Festival, which runs Friday to Sunday. The amphitheater will be transformed into a desert scene, the stage for boxing, wrestling, gladiator fights, Amazon (women) fights and a horse act. Admission is 6 euros for adults, free for kids up to 5.

The Imperial Baths and Palaestra will include a Roman camp of 80 legionnaires, a Roman arts and crafts market, antique theater performances (plus a Roman fashion and hair show), food and light-and-sound installation in the underground passages. Entrance is 5.20 euros for adults, free for kids up to 13. Tickets also are good for local public transportation. Contact the tourist board at (+49) (0) 651/978080 or visit www.trier.de.

NETHERLANDS: "Blooming Moves" is the theme of this year's flower parade Saturday, which leaves Rijnburg at 1:30 p.m. and travels via Katwijk to arrive in Noordwijk at 6:30 p.m. The floral startlets will create the Rijnburg tourist board films. The Rijnburg tourist board number is (+31) (0) 71/409 4444.

— JAYNE TRAENDLY
AND WIRE REPORTS

Anne Frank exhibition

Through Sept. 12, the FOAM Photography Museum in Amsterdam is showing "Anne Frank 75." To commemorate what would have been the famous diarist's birthday, the exhibition consists of more than 60 photos, most of them taken by her father, Otto Frank.

The museum is at Keizersgracht 609. It's open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday. Admission is 5 euros. Phone (+31) (0) 20/ 551 6500 or go to www.foam.nl.

Children eat free

If you have hungry young mouths to feed, you might want to take advantage of the Center Parcs leisure park company's summer special. Kids 12 and younger can eat for free in all of its facilities.

Center Parcs has 19 sites in the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France and Great Britain. Depending on which you choose, activities include pony riding, play areas and a farm for children, cycling and walking tours; swimming pools, saunas and whirlpools; and diving, sailing and rafting.

Accommodations are in villas.

The Calendar and Tours & Outdoor courses will return when space allows.

A standard villa for four people in Germany, for example, with two bedrooms and two bathrooms costs about 350 to 419 euros for a weekend.

To reserve, go to the Web at www.centerparcs.de.

Castle/art package

More than 200 of the New York Museum of Modern Art's works are showing through Sept. 19 in Berlin's New National Gallery.

They range from late Impressionism to contemporary and include those from van Gogh, Picasso, Pollock and Hopper. The primarily Baroque castle in Zietzen, a half-hour's drive from the city center, is offering an exhibition package until Sept. 19. It costs 185 euros per person, double occupancy, and includes two nights' accommodations, breakfasts, a ticket to the exhibition and tea in its salon.

For details, contact the tourist office for Brandenburg at telephone (+49) (0) 331/298 730, fax (+49) (0) 331/298 7373. E-mail tmb@reiseland-brandenburg.de.

— JAYNE TRAENDLY

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Be Safe, Make It Home

Summertime fun has hidden risks, which is why the Army in Europe implemented its summer safety campaign. The campaign promotes key areas of vehicle accident prevention, heat injury prevention, and various aspects of recreation. Automobile safety tops the list, according to USAEUR Safety Manager Dave Scott, citing the deaths of seven Soldiers in vehicles crashes so far this year — twice as many as the same period last year. Scott said Army in Europe members need to make it personal, and consciously anticipate and address driving dangers like autobahn construction sites, where traffic goes, as he put it, from "the speed of light to a crawl, and always just around a bend in the road." Driving on secondary roads has been particularly hazardous. Scott says that drivers shouldn't underestimate the time it takes to pass in relation to how far you can see so that you don't misjudge the speed of oncoming traffic. "Soldiers, civilians, and family members need to be prepared and drive defensively. Relax, be patient and enjoy the scenery," Scott said. Good safety tools are available as part of the campaign on the USAEUR home page at <http://www.hqsaeur.army.mil>. You will find tips on trip planning, automated risk assessments and vehicle inspections.

Trip planning is especially relevant during the summer travel season. Mr. Mike Willoughby, IMA Europe Safety Manager, emphasizes the need to plan enough time for the return trip. "Don't wait until the last minute to return home and feel the need to speed or drive through the night." In addition to plenty of time, Willoughby suggests some other important planning considerations: Plan travel routes that avoid traffic jams and construction sites. Be prepared for mechanical and medical emergencies. Know how to contact emergency services while en route and at your vacation location. After you've done your planning, it's time to consider what to pack. In addition to packing clothing appropriate for all types of weather possible in Europe, Willoughby suggests packing an emergency kit appropriate for your mode of travel. Willoughby also has some suggestions for things to leave behind. Leave a copy of your itinerary, credit card numbers, travel documents, prescriptions, and a spare house key with someone you trust and whom you can reach in an emergency. Safety awareness doesn't stop once you're at your vacation location, says Willoughby "Be Safe and make it home!"

USAEUR & 7th ARMY

IMA, EUROPE REGION

Escapee recaptured

TN WHITEVILLE — A convicted murderer serving a life term who escaped was recaptured after a search by more than 70 officers aided by aircraft and dogs.

Tracy Lynn Harris, 26, was apprehended outside Bolivar, Hardeman County Chief Deputy Doug Brown said.

Harris had escaped from the privately owned Hardeman County Correctional Facility in Whiteville, nine miles from Bolivar, by cutting through a chain-link fence. Authorities believe he acted alone.

Harris gave up without a fight, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation spokeswoman Jennifer Johnson said.

"People had called in several sightings throughout the day," Johnson said.

Harris is serving life without chance of parole for the 1998 rape and murder of an 81-year-old woman.

Gov.'s efforts cost state

NE LINCOLN — Nebraska will pay \$141 million for blocking efforts to build a low-level radioactive waste dump but will not be obligated to allow a dump in the state, under the settlement of a lawsuit accepted by a five-state compact.

The dump was to have been built in the northeast part of the state and take waste from the compact, which consists of Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas.

U.S. District Judge Richard Kopf in Lincoln had ruled in 2002 that former Nebraska Gov. Ben Nelson, now a U.S. senator, engaged in a politically motivated and orchestrated plot to keep the regional dump from being built in Nebraska.

Kopf ordered Nebraska to pay damages, but did not address the issue of where the dump should be placed.

Beauty queen guilty

MN MINNEAPOLIS — A former beauty queen who collected more than \$190,000 in Social Security benefits by claiming she was disabled was convicted of fraud.

A federal jury found Denise Henderson, 44, guilty of wire fraud and of making false statements and concealing information from the Social Security Administration.

An attorney for Henderson, Mrs. Minnesota International in 1999 and Mrs. Iowa International in 2001, has said she suffers debilitating chronic pain from a 1995 car accident.

Federal prosecutors noted during the trial that Henderson collected benefits while making over 200 appearances as Mrs. Minnesota International in a year. Henderson, of Woodbury, currently serves as a director for several pageants.

According to a report she filed in 1997, Henderson said she had continuous back and neck pain and could not move or strain up, had migraines four or five times a week that lasted most of a day and could not drive for more than 20 minutes at a time.

Her attorney, Earl Gray, said Henderson's pageants didn't require physical exertion, and she



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

didn't earn a paycheck.

Runoff canceled

GA ATLANTA — The Georgia Supreme Court has canceled a scheduled runoff election for an open seat on the state Court of Appeals, acting in a lawsuit filed by a candidate who fell 382 votes short from advancing to the runoff and whose first name was wrong on some ballots.

Howard Mead challenged the results of the July 20 nonpartisan general election after finishing behind Debra Bernes and Michael Sheffield. He contended in his lawsuit that he was incorrectly listed as Thomas Mead on 481 absentee ballots in Laurens County.

A superior court judge in Cobb County ruled against Mead, contending an incorrect first name on absentee ballots did not call the election results into question.

The top two finishers in the election — Bernes and Sheffield — had been set to face each other in the runoff since no candidate had exceeded the state required 45 percent of the vote to win the seat.

Search ended

CA FAWNKINS — Authorities called off their search for a 9-year-old boy missing for more than a week in the San Bernardino Mountains after hundreds of deputies and volunteer searchers failed to turn up any trace of him.

David Gonzales was on a camping trip with members of his church July 31 when his mother



Synchronized feeding
Ducks feed for food in a synchronized pattern at the Smith Park pond in Middletown, Ohio.

said she gave him the keys to the family truck so he could get some cookies. The truck was locked with the cookies still inside when his parents discovered he was missing.

For nine days, searchers on foot and horseback, in helicopters, boats and all-terrain vehicles had scoured the rocky pine and cedar forest on the edge of Big Bear Lake, about 90 miles east of Los Angeles.

Grisly greeting

ME ROCKLAND — Two Maine State Prison inmates who allegedly conspired to mail a police crime scene photograph of a murder victim's body to his mother in Kennebec are being tried for harassment.

If found guilty of the misdemeanor, Steven Schoff, the man who murdered Devin O'Brien in 1996, and Michael Willings could have six months added to their respective sentences.

Debbie O'Brien said the photo showing her son's body stuffed inside the trunk of a car was enclosed with a Thanksgiving-themed greeting card. She said she opened the envelope on July 19, 2001, which would have been Devin's 26th birthday.

Inside were the words, "P.S. Thinking of you. Happy birthday."

Schoff, 32, is serving 28 years for killing Devin O'Brien on April 25, 1996, in a Lyman gravel pit.

Danger lurks for train

TX HOUSTON — Once called the "train to nowhere," Houston's new rail line between downtown and the Astrodome is earning a few new nicknames — "Danger Train," the "Wham Bam Tram" and "A Streetcar Named Disaster."

More than 50 collisions have occurred along the 7.5-mile route since it opened in November, prompting residents to keep a running tally on Web sites and transportation experts to suggest raising the line above street level.

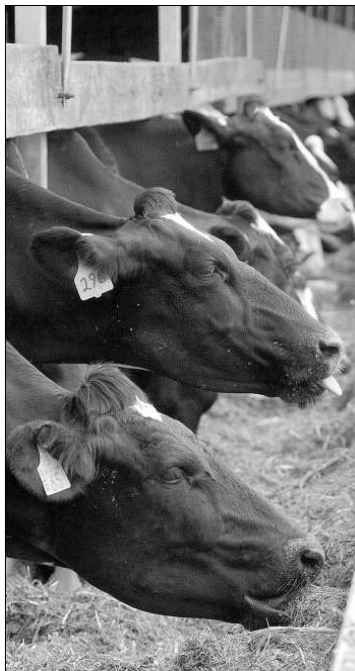
Rail promoters promised the sleek gray trains would take cars off the road, "they've just done it one car at a time," said John Geyer, who started the Wham-Bam-Tram counter, a Web site that chronicles each crash.

The MetroRail averages six crashes a month — a rate 20 times worse than the national average for the nation's 17 light rail systems, according to the Federal Transit Administration.

Rating landlords

MI ANN ARBOR — University of Michigan students will be able to rate their landlords online and comment on their housing experience. The Web site is a project of the Michigan Student Assembly. The new site, linked to the University of Michigan's computer network, will let students rate their landlords and the condition of their apartments on a five-point scale and comment on their experiences. The site is expected to be up in September.

Landlords worry that only dissatisfied students will take the time to comment.



Waste not

Matthew Freund's 225 dairy cows produce the raw product and energy required to make a biodegradable fiber pot in East Canaan, Conn.



Wild water

Zephyr Whitewater Expeditions owner Bob Ferguson rides the rapids of the King's River in King's Canyon National Park, Calif.



Budding artist Lauren Winter, 6, draws a picture outside her Dubuque, Iowa, home.



Painful landing Josh McCreadie is thrown from a bull during the Santa Barbara Old Spanish Days Fiesta Stock Horse Show and Rodeo in Santa Barbara, Calif.



Peaceful dive A snorkeler swims at Balmorhea State Park near Toyahvale, Texas. Balmorhea, in the desert, features a spring-fed swimming area with depths to 30 feet and excellent visibility.

Homeless hero

PA UPPER DARBY — A homeless man is being hailed as a hero after chasing down an alleged purse snatcher, tackling him and holding him down until police arrived.

Loretta Ferraro, 68, was in the Chef's Spot restaurant waiting for a friend when she said a man tried to grab the handbag out of her lap. The two engaged in a tug-of-war, but the man prevailed and bolted out the door.

The suspect ended up fleeing right past a homeless shelter where Kevin Runkle had just stepped outside to smoke a cigarette. Runkle said he noticed the commotion and took off after the man, identified by police as Hyo Lee.

Monitoring axed

FL TALLAHASSEE — Gov. Jeb Bush has eliminated a state program that monitored juveniles under house arrest through electronic ankle bracelets. The program, which cost \$2.2 million annually, covered 8,652 children in the last fiscal year. The decision was a cost-savings effort. Bush spokesman Jacob DePietre said counties could continue the program on their own.

Child security criticized

TX SAN ANTONIO — Child Protective Services intends to carry out an additional 3,000 investigations during the next fiscal year in the wake of criticism over the handling of several abuse and neglect cases.

Agency officials are planning to conduct 131,700 investigations in the fiscal year that starts in September, up from 128,700 this year, the San Antonio Express-News reported.

The Texas Legislature allocated extra funding last year for the hiring of 356 more caseworkers. The agency hired 178 this fiscal year and plans to hire the rest next year.

GOP opposes measure

CA SAN DIEGO — Capping a three-day state convention, California Republicans voted Sunday to oppose a November ballot measure that would provide \$3 billion in state bonds for human embryonic stem cell research in California.

Although President Bush has cited ethical issues in arguing against the expansion of such research, party members framed their voice vote largely as a budget issue. They said the state can't afford \$3 billion in interest payments that would bring the true cost of Proposition 71 to \$6 billion.

The state's most prominent Republican, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, has taken no position on the stem cell ballot measure. He said in June that he supports stem cell research, but he has also campaigned against the state going deeper into debt.

Crushing bathroom crisis

CT NAUGATUCK — A man who believes the town

crushed his sewer line says he'll use the bathroom in Town Hall every morning until the problem is solved.

Robert Antidormi has accused the town of recent inaction, a storm pipe over his sewer line, causing backups that prevent his family from using their bathroom.

While his wife, Lisa, and three young sons have opted to stay with family out of town, Antidormi is staying put.

"It's not my fault," he told the Republican-American of Waterbury. "It's the town's place to make good on their mistake."

Mayor Ron San Angelo disagrees, saying town residents are responsible for their sewer lines.

Women could win seats

MO JEFFERSON CITY — Voters this fall could elect women to five of the top six statewide offices on the ballot, including governor and state senator, which would be unprecedented in state history. The women running are four Democrats and two Republicans.

Previously, the most female candidates on one general election ballot was three in 1992. The only statewide office on the ballot this year lacking a female nominee is attorney general.

Stomach-turning trip

MD LANHAM — At least 90 people attending a conference at the University of Maryland were taken to hospitals with possible cases of food poisoning, university officials said.

Most of the patients were high school students from across the country attending a leadership conference, university spokesman Ellen Curtis said. They complained of nausea and were taken to hospitals in buses.

Most of the patients were being treated at Doctors Community Hospital, a hospital spokeswoman said. Others were taken to Washington Adventist Hospital, university officials said.

The source of the potentially tainted food was unclear, Curtis said. They had eaten turkey and taco box lunches, though it unclear whether they came from Campus Food Services.

Deadly driving rage

KS WICHITA — A bar patron rammed his pickup truck into several people, killing one and injuring two others, after a fight in the bar moved outside, police said.

Several people who had been kicked out of Champs Bar and Grill after an argument broke out were throwing punches in the parking lot when a man got into his truck and drove into several people, Wichita police Lt. John Speer said.

Speer said the man then drove around the building, striking three vehicles before fleeing.

Police said they arrested a 24-year-old man at his southern Sedgwick County home, and booked him on counts of reckless second-degree murder and attempted reckless second-degree murder.

Photos and stories from wire services



Director Quentin Tarantino, seen here with "Kill Bill" star Uma Thurman, has just one regret about splitting his vengeance saga into two movies: The move may have undermined its Academy Awards prospects.

Tarantino fears 'Kill Bill' split cost Oscars

BY DAVID GERMAIN
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Quentin Tarantino has just one regret about splitting his "Kill Bill" vengeance saga into two movies: The move may have undermined its Academy Awards prospects, particularly for star Uma Thurman.

"I think the only thing that might have been lost in that decision is we could have gotten considerably more awards play if the film had been one big, giant epic," Tarantino, 41, told The Associated Press. "As one big movie, Uma would have gotten a best-actress nomination, for sure."

"I'm still hoping we're going to do good at the Oscars this year" for "Kill Bill — Vol. 2," which came out on home video Tuesday. "Kill Bill — Vol. 1" was shut out in the last Oscar nominations.

Film honors aside, breaking "Kill Bill" into last fall's "Vol. 1" and spring's "Vol. 2" worked well financially and artistically, Tarantino said.

Distributor Miramax set itself up for a double dose of theatrical, home-video and television revenue for the two installments, which cost a combined \$65 million and grossed a total of \$136 million domestically.

"If I tried to turn it into a three-hour or two-and-a-half-hour movie, all the scenes that would go would be scenes I think give the movie its uniqueness," Tarantino said. "If I truly, truly believed the film would have had more impact shorter, I would have done it that way."

The saga co-stars David Carradine as Bill and Madsen, Lucy Liu, Daryl Hannah and Vivica A. Fox as members of his hit team targeted by Thurman's Bride.

Fox files for divorce from Williams

LOS ANGELES — Former Los Angeles Laker Rick Fox has filed for divorce from singer-actress Vanessa Williams.

The couple have been married for five years and have a 4-year-old daughter, Sasha, Fox's spokeswoman, Staci Wolfe, said Tuesday.

"They are both extremely devoted parents, so the most important thing to them right now is the welfare of their child," Wolfe said. "They are committed to working out what's best for her."

Wolfe declined further comment.

Fox, who played with the Lakers for seven years, was traded last week to the Boston Celtics. The 35-year-old may retire because of nagging injuries rather than play in Boston, according to Celtics director of basketball operations Danny Ainge.

Williams' publicist, Brad Cafarelli, declined comment. Her film credits include 2000's "Shut," 1997's "Soul Food" and this year's "Johnson Family Vacation." The 41-year-old has also appeared in Broadway musicals including "Into the Woods."

From The Associated Press

AFRIS television Schedule

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2004					
(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00 Dr. Phil	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Nightline	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	The Wild Thornberrys	Yu-Gi-Oh!
9:30 Jumanji	Air Force TV News	SpongeBob	The Simpsons	Mucha Lucha	Jeopardy!
10:00 Oprah Winfrey	Jeopardy!	Hardball With Chris Matthews	Happy Days	Headline News	Headline News
10:30 Guiding Light	Wheel of Fortune	60 Minutes II	One Tree Hill "The Living Years"	Pacific Report	Pacific Report
11:00 General Hospital	Advisory Block	The O'Reilly Factor	SportsCenter	The West Wing "Red Haven's on Fire"	Everybody-Raymond
12:00 Headline News	Everybody-Raymond	The O'Reilly Factor	SportsCenter	The West Wing "Red Haven's on Fire"	Everybody-Raymond
12:30 Judge Judy	Scrub's "His Story II"	Scrub's "His Story II"	SportsCenter	Frontline "Diet Wars"	My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiance
13:00 Today Entertainment Report: It's CooTime	My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiance	Good Morning America	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	The debate over which diets are the best.	My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiance
13:30 Judge Judy	ER "Midnight"	ER "Midnight"	Headline News	ER "Midnight"	ER "Midnight"
14:00 Asahi! Real Monsters	The Pacific Report	Headline News	SportsCenter	Inspector Morse "The Way Through the Woods"	Pacific Report
15:00 The Weekenders (E)	The Tonight Show	World News	NFL Yearbook: Browns	Inspector Morse "The Way Through the Woods"	The Tonight Show
16:00 Yu-Gi-Oh!	The Tonight Show	The Early Show	NFL Yearbook: Browns	Inspector Morse "The Way Through the Woods"	The Tonight Show
16:30 Mucha Lucha	Late Show	Headline News	NFL Yearbook: Browns	Inspector Morse "The Way Through the Woods"	Late Show
17:00 Jeopardy!	Access Hollywood	FOX News	SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys	Access Hollywood
17:30 Headline News	Movie *** "Babe" (1995) James Cromwell	FOX News	ESPN News	SpongeBob	Access Hollywood
18:00 ESPN News	Movie *** "Babe" (1995) James Cromwell	FOX News	Baseball Tonight	The Simpsons	Movie *** "Babe" (1995) James Cromwell
18:30 Headline News	A young pig becomes a champion shade herder here.	60 Minutes II	XXVIII Summer Olympics From Athens, Greece.	One Tree Hill "The Living Years"	A young pig becomes a champion shade herder here.
19:00 Everybody-Raymond	Scrub's "His Story II"	FOX News	Headline News	Frontline "Diet Wars"	Scrub's "His Story II"
20:00 My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiance	Movie *** "Alien" (1979) Tom Skerritt	FOX News	Headline News	Frontline "Diet Wars"	Movie *** "Alien" (1979) Tom Skerritt
20:30 Judge Judy	ER "Midnight"	Headline News	Inside Politics	Out-of-space stowaway at odds: interstellar miners.	Out-of-space stowaway at odds: interstellar miners.
21:30 Headline News	The Hot List	Air Force TV News	Lester Holt	Inspector Morse "The Way Through the Woods"	The Hot List
22:30 The Tonight Show	Headline News	Lester Holt	Inspector Morse "The Way Through the Woods"	Inspector Morse "The Way Through the Woods"	Headline News
23:30 Late Show	Today Entertainment Report: It's CooTime.	Today Entertainment Report: It's CooTime.	Today Entertainment Report: It's CooTime.	Today Entertainment Report: It's CooTime.	Today Entertainment Report: It's CooTime.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2004					
00:00 (11:30) Late Show	Headline News	Headline News	(9:30) Golf PGA Championship — First Round (Same-day Tape)	(11:00) Inspector Morse	(11:30) Today
00:30 Access Hollywood	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	ABC World News	Yankees Thornberrys	Sesame Street (E)
1:00 NFL Live	Sesame Street (E)	CBS Evening News	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Live)	The Simpsons	Little Bill (E)
1:30 NFL Preseason Football Baltimore Ravens at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore. (Live)	Little Bill (E)	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Hannity & Colmes	Happy Days	Wheel of Fortune
2:00 Dr. Phil	Hannity & Colmes	Dr. Phil	Oprah Winfrey	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Dr. Phil
3:00 Oprah Winfrey	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Headline News	BET Nightly News	Business Rpt.	Headline News
3:30 Judge Judy	Access Hollywood	Larry King Live	Baseball Tonight	World Wildlife	Access Hollywood
4:00 Guiding Light	Guiding Light	Newsnight With Aaron Brown	Aussie Rules Highlights	Buff the Vampire Slayer	Vengeance Isued
4:30 General Hospital	PrimeTime Thursday	Paula Zahn Now	SportsCenter	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	The Wild Thornberrys
5:00 Little Bill (E)	Rocko's Modern Life	Nightline	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday
5:30 Headline News	As Told by Ginger	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
6:00 Headline News	Jeopardy!	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
6:30 Headline News	Wheel of Fortune	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
7:00 Sesame Street (E)	General Hospital	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
7:30 Little Bill (E)	PrimeTime Thursday	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
8:00 Rocky's Modern Life	Rocko's Modern Life	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
8:30 Dr. Phil	The Mummy	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
9:00 Oprah Winfrey	As Told by Ginger	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
9:30 Guiding Light	Jeopardy!	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
10:00 General Hospital	Advisory Block	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
10:30 Headline News	King of the Hill	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
11:00 Judge Judy	Malcolm in the Middle	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
11:30 Today's Style: LL Cool J.	The Apprentice "The Price is Right"	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
12:00 Headline News	The Apprentice "The Price is Right"	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
12:30 Judge Judy	The Apprentice "The Price is Right"	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
13:00 Today's Style: LL Cool J.	The Apprentice "The Price is Right"	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
13:30 Headline News	The Apprentice "The Price is Right"	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
14:00 Baby Looney Tunes	Rocko's Modern Life	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
15:00 Rocky's Modern Life	The Tonight Show	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
16:00 The Fairly OddParents	As Told by Ginger	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
17:00 Jeopardy!	Access Hollywood	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
17:30 Headline News	Movie *** "Bul" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
18:00 ESPN News	Movie *** "Bul" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
18:30 Headline News	Movie *** "Bul" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
19:00 King of the Hill	Movie *** "Bul" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
19:30 Malcolm in the Middle	Movie *** "Bul" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
20:00 The Apprentice "The Price is Right"	Movie *** "Steel Magnolia" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
21:00 Headline News	Movie *** "Steel Magnolia" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
21:30 Headline News	Movie *** "Steel Magnolia" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
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22:30 The Tonight Show	Movie *** "Steel Magnolia" (1988) Condy-Diana Kevin Costner, Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	PrimeTime Thursday	PrimeTime Thursday
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STARS AND STRIPES

FACES 'N' PLACES

Andrews goes back to her roots

Julie Andrews is coming back to "The Boy Friend." The actress made her Broadway debut in 1954 in Sandy Wilson's spoof of the giddy 1920s musical comedy, and now she is directing a revival of the show.

Andrews is overseeing a production that will open next summer at the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Conn., and then travel the country. In the original New York production, she played Polly Browne, an English heiress who falls in love with a delivery boy who turns out to be the son of a wealthy nobleman.

The Goodspeed version will play July 15-Sept. 24, 2005, in Connecticut and then tour, beginning in Wilmington, Del., followed by Boston; Greenville, S.C.; Hershey, Pa.; East Lansing, Mich.; Chicago; Green Bay, Wis.; and St. Paul, Minn. More cities will be announced later.

Andrews, best known for starring on Broadway in "My Fair Lady" and "Camelot" as well as in movie musicals such as "Mary Poppins" and "The Sound of Music," first directed "The Boy Friend" last summer in Sag Harbor, N.Y., at the Bay Street Theater, which is run by her daughter, Emma Walton.

Sets and costumes for the new production of "The Boy Friend" will be designed by Andrews' ex-husband, Tony Walton.



Andrews

'Idol' hopefuls flock to St. Louis

Tents and long lines marked the landscape outside the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis as some 10,000 "American Idol" hopefuls showed up to audition for the Fox television show.

Contestants began lining up Friday, though producers had told singers not to arrive until 6 a.m. Saturday.

St. Louis police Sgt. Ronald Klier said the crowd was orderly — and talented.

"A lot of them brought their guitars. Some of them sang. I'd say they are pretty good," Klier said. "It takes a lot of guts to get in front of people and sing. I admire that."

On Sunday, contestants processed Saturday were to perform for about 30 seconds. From that pool, about 360 singers were expected to go before executive producers Monday. From there, the field will be cut to about 120. Celebrity judges Simon Cowell, Paula Abdul and Randy Jackson will pick about 30 singers Wednesday to compete against other finalists in California.

The fourth season of "American Idol" will debut in January.

Auditions will be held in the coming months in Washington, Orlando, Fla.; New Orleans; Las Vegas; Anchorage, Alaska; and San Francisco.

Former Eagles bassist hospitalized

Former Eagles bassist Randy Meisner, who co-wrote and sang the rock group's classic "Take It to the Limit," has been hospitalized for chest pains, his manager said.

Meisner, 58, was taken to Providence St. Joseph's Medical Center in Burbank, Calif., on Friday morning, his manager, Kevin White, told The Associated Press.

"He's resting comfortably. He's not experiencing any pain," White said Sunday. "He's doing well."

White said Meisner's wife was at his side and doctors were running a series of tests. Hospital spokesman Brian Greene said he couldn't release any details about Meisner's condition.

Meisner led the Eagles in 1977. He now performs with The World Classic Rockers.

Duff's set catches fire

Teen star Hilary Duff's show at Gwinnett Arena in Atlanta was halted for nearly an hour after an overhead speaker caught fire.

"Duff was six songs into her set Sunday afternoon when the speaker short-circuited, sending her band off stage and prompting some front-row audience members to take cover."

Event planners said no one was hurt.

"This is by far the craziest show I've ever seen," the 16-year-old singer-actress told the audience of 10,000 after staffers had replaced the speaker.



Duff

Not God, just dios



KRT

They may not be Christian rockers, but that's not stopping dios' debut album from gaining popularity. The Hawthorne, Calif., band draws in fans with its melodies that recall groups like the Beach Boys and Radiohead.

BY LEN RIGHI

The Morning Call (Allentown, Pa.)

The question makes the usually sedate Joel Morales laugh out loud: Do people ever mistakenly think dios is a Christian rock band?

"Sometimes," replies the 28-year-old singer-guitarist for the Hawthorne, Calif., dream-pop quintet, a bit of mischief creeping into his voice. "I've never been good at naming anything, so when it came to the band we just said, 'Whatever.' ... We even called ourselves God at one point. ... I always wanted to see a marquee that said, 'Tonight: God.'"

Morales also cops to telling a white lie about the band to avoid potential trouble with the law. "We'd be going through Texas and we'd be pulled over and we'd say we play Christian rock," recalls Morales.

"At first they didn't believe us, but when we told them our name, they said, 'OK, that's cool,' and let us go."

On the strength of a near-perfect self-titled debut full of poignant meditations and mesmerizing melodies that recall both masters past (the Beach Boys, John Lennon, Neil Young) and present (Grandaddy, Radiohead), the name of dios is beginning to spread to other parts of the country.

A certain heavy metal singer who once fronted Black Sabbath has taken notice, too. "Ronnie James Dio's lawyer sent us a cease-and-desist letter," Morales says. "It's kinda funny. He said we would confuse [Dio's] public, so we might make [our name] into an acronym. But hey, Dio has heard of us, so we feel good."

Morales, his brother, guitarist-vocalist Kevin Morales, bassist J.P. Caballero, and keyboardist Jimmy Cabeza De Vaca have been in bands together since 1999. When drummer Jackie Monzon signed on a couple of years ago, the dios jelled.

Growing up, Morales listened exclusively to hip-hop. "L.L. Cool J, Kool Moe Dee, the Beastie Boys — everything up until [Dr. Dre's] 'The Chronic.' That was the last hip-hop record I really liked."

Then, "rock really took over," says Morales. "Nirvana, The Beatles, all sorts of metal, Bowie. And there was a punk-rock phase, too."

As a pre-teen Morales "learned a chord or two" on guitar from his dad, "but then [the movie] 'La Bamba' came out

[in 1987] and I had to learn to play."

Over the last five years Morales built up a stockpile of songs, as did his brother Kevin, who is 7½ years younger. "We decided we needed to get something out, so I sat down with my brother and said, 'You pick five songs, I'll pick five songs and we each pick a cover.'"

Kevin chose Young's "Birds," while Joel picked "You Got Me All Wrong," a Floydian tune by Miguel Mendez, who played with Joel in the Berkeley-based band Tawshabla.

Joel, Kevin and the rest of the band spent the next nine months in a practice space with a home recorder creating "dios."

Although there are no individual songwriting credits —

"We didn't care who got credit for what," says Morales — there is a difference in the content of the brothers' songs. "He [Kevin] writes a lot of love songs as opposed to me," says Morales. "Mine are mostly about self-empowerment, about guys and girls losing each other but not pining about it."

He points to "Nobody's Perfect," which opens the disc and whose first words are, "The wait is over baby, feel free to move."

The song is about a former flame with whom Morales is still friends. "She's heard it," he notes, "but she doesn't know it's about her, and I'm not planning to tell her."

"Betsy, my girlfriend now, knows who it's about, and she's not happy about it, because I haven't written a song about her yet."

The way Morales crafted "All Said & Done" also is instructive.

"Things don't necessarily follow in any order," explains Morales.

"One line means something, the next one something else. ... Overall, it's says you can think you know what you want, but do you really know what you want? ... I try not to be so horribly ironic. But I was listening to a lot of Morrissey at the time I wrote it."

Speaking of Morrissey, dios recently got a big boost from the British moe-rock legend.

"We got offered the opening slot for all five shows he played in late April in L.A.," says Morales.

"But we were in Europe and wouldn't be getting back in time to do all of them. Still, he gave us the final call. We were very flattered. A year ago, we were nobody."

"We even called ourselves God at one point. ... I always wanted to see a marquee that said, 'Tonight: God.'"

Joel Morales
dios singer-guitarist

OPINION

Europe's work to keep Iran honest not done

BY FAREED ZAKARIA

The Washington Post

Who could have imagined that alliance management would be a hot election issue? But it is John Kerry's repeated pledge to restore relations with U.S. allies has struck a chord. The trouble is, if he is elected president, Kerry is going to find that promise hard to keep — at least with America's allies in Europe. Most of them would be delighted to see Kerry win, but that doesn't mean they will be more cooperative on policy issues. Terrorism is understandably on everyone's mind, but there is yet another growing danger over the horizon. Early into a Kerry administration, we could see a familiar sight — a transatlantic crisis — except this time it wouldn't be over Iraq but Iran.

The threat to the United States from Iraq weapons is a direct destruction, if they ever existed, is the problem in the past. Iran, however, is the problem of the future. Over the past two years, thanks to tips from Iranian opposition groups and investigation by the International Atomic Energy Agency, it has become clear that Iran is seeking to develop nuclear weapons. In the IAEA's words, Iran has "a practically com-

plete front-end of a nuclear fuel cycle," which leads most experts to believe it is two to three years away from having a nuclear bomb.

European countries were as worried by this development as Washington, and because the United States has no relations with Iran, Europe stepped in last fall and negotiated a deal with Tehran. It was an excellent agreement, under which Iran pledged to stop developing fissile material (the core ingredient of a nuclear bomb) and to keep its nuclear program transparent. The only problem is, Iran has recently announced that it isn't going to abide by the deal. One month ago the IAEA condemned Iran for its failure to cooperate. Tehran then announced that it would resume work in prohibited areas.

That's where things stand, with the clock ticking fast. If Iran were to go nuclear, it would have dramatic effects. It would place nuclear materials in the hands of a radical regime that has ties to unsavory groups, and it would revolutionize the Middle East. Saudi Arabia and Egypt would feel threatened by Iran's bomb and would start their own search for nuclear technology. (Saudi Arabia probably could not make a bomb but it could certainly buy necessary technology from a country such as Paki-

stan. In fact, we don't really know all of the buyers who patronized Pakistani scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan's nuclear supermarket. It's possible Saudi Arabia already has a few elements of such a program.)

And then there is Israel, which has long perceived Iran as its greatest threat. It is unlikely to sit passively while developing a nuclear arsenal. The powerful Iranian politician Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has publicly speculated about a nuclear exchange with Israel. If Iran's program went forward, at some point Israel would almost certainly try to destroy it with airstrikes, as it did on Iran's reactor in Osirak. Such an action would, of course, create a massive political crisis in the region.

In the face of these dangers, Europe seems remarkably passive. Having burst into action last fall, it does not seem to know what to do now that Iran has rebuffed its efforts. It is urging negotiations again, which is fine. But what is the threat that it is willing to yield?

Last month the Brookings Institution conducted a scenario with mostly former American and European officials. In it, Iran acquires fissile material. Even facing imminent production of a nuclear bomb, Europeans were unwilling to take any robust measures. James Stein-



berg, a senior Clinton administration official who organized this workshop, said that he was "deeply frustrated by European attitudes." Madeleine Albright, who regularly convenes a discussion group of former foreign ministers, said that on this topic, "Europeans say they understand the threat but then act as if the real problem is not Iran but the United States."

U.S. policy toward Iran is hardly blameless. Washington refuses even to consider the possibility of direct talks with Iran, let alone actual relations. Europeans could present Washington with a plan.

They would go along with a bigger stick if Washington would throw in a bigger carrot: direct engagement with Tehran. This is something Tehran has long sought, and it could be offered in return for renouncing its nuclear ambitions.

But for any of this to happen, Europe must be willing to play an active, assertive role. It must stop viewing itself merely as a critic of U.S. policy and instead see itself as a partner, jointly acting to reduce the dangers of nuclear proliferation. And it should do this not as a favor to John Kerry but as a responsibility to its own citizens and those of the world.

McCain's split loyalties confuse candidates, voters

Sen. John McCain should decide whom he is for in the presidential race — George W. Bush or his old Senate pal, John Kerry, whose Vietnam record he is constantly defending, seemingly as a shared experience.

Dan Thomasson

It is one thing to criticize fellow Vietnam veterans who challenge the heroism of Kerry's short stint in the Mekong Delta. It is quite another to lay the blame for these allegations at the doorstep of the man you contend you are unequivocally supporting for another four years in the White House and whose campaign you will physically join.

That is exactly what the Arizona lawmaker did the other day when he suggested that it was up to the president to rebuke a series of ads by a group of fellow veterans alleging that Kerry has seriously distorted the facts about his record as a highly decorated Swift boat commander during four and a half months in Vietnam. The White House has made it a point not to criticize the Massachusetts senator about the service, which has become a central theme of his campaign. While declining to condemn the ads specifically, presidential aides answered McCain by calling for an end to all outside attack ads, including those sponsored by Kerry supporters.

Kerry has been able to hold off spending any of his \$75 million in public funds for the campaign before Labor Day by relying on these outside ads that are sponsored by independent groups and the Democratic Party and fall through the cracks of legislation to reform campaign funding. Without them, he would have to dip into his restricted public

funds a month ahead of Bush, who won't officially accept the nomination until early next month. Under the law, a candidate must limit his spending to his public funds once he accepts the nomination, which, of course, Kerry did in Boston.

The whole thing is a travesty and one ironically set in motion by McCain, a key sponsor of the reform law, whose almost decade-long crusade against the use of "soft" money (unlimited contributions not spent in conjunction with any campaign) has changed the political landscape for the worse. Democrats, who generally supported the new law, suddenly found their party machinery and their candidates hamstringing and unable to match the Republicans in individual contributions.

But a major loophole allowed the birth of groups designated as 527s that can pick up the slack without missing a beat as long as they are separate from a specific campaign and stick to issues that just happen to be the points their candidate is making. Confused? There is no need to be. Just understand that the business of seeking the presidency this

year will be the most expensive ever and is likely to go up from there in the decades to come.

Supporters of both candidates are involved in what is becoming a landmark act of negativism. The questioning of Kerry's record by a group of his fellow Swift boat veterans is little different from commercials that criticize Bush's immediate reaction to the news that a plane had hit the World Trade Center, the seven minutes he continued to read to children after hearing it — a silly allegation of negligence put forth by the silly propaganda filmmaker Michael Moore, who has gotten rich from it. Neither candidate should approve of these tactics.

In all deference, Kerry's service, as perilous as it was, seems pale in comparison with McCain's years of torture and hardship as a prisoner in North Vietnam. Actually, while McCain was suffering and refusing to bend to the will of his captors, Kerry was renouncing his own service and helping to lead anti-war activists, charging without proof that American troops routinely

committed atrocities.

So why does McCain, who has proclaimed fealty to Bush, find it necessary to take up the cudgels for Kerry? Without assigning subversive motives to the good senator, one might suggest that he really never has been enamored of Bush, who beat him for the Republican nomination four years ago. He may even have considered far more seriously than he has publicly allowed Kerry's overture to be his running mate on a hybrid ticket. Then again, he seems to constantly need to bolster his reputation as the party's major iconoclast and dissident, taking stands that are often contrary to GOP policy or doctrine and jumping unsolicited into controversies.

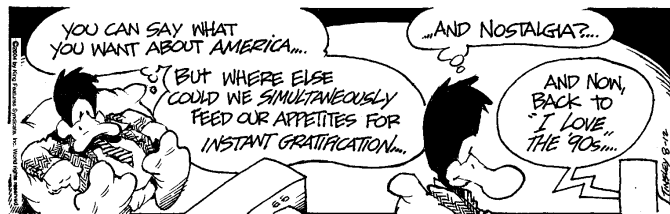
That is all well and good. But McCain should decide whether he is as wholeheartedly in support of Bush, as he claims, or whether he just isn't more comfortable with his Senate buddy and fellow veteran.

Otherwise, he is in danger of becoming just another vacillating politician.

Don Thomasson is former editor of *Stars and Stripes* Howard News Service.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



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STARS AND STRIPES
 Your Hometown Newspaper

11/1/2011

Horoscope

The moon in Cancer encourages us to work from home or possibly work on the home. Mars now in Virgo will wind up teaching us that in order to make progress in our lives we must stop judging those who already have what we want. Turn feelings of envy into powerful motivators. The finer points are what will determine a win or a loss.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(August 12). This year is filled with wonder—you'll feel you don't quite know where things are leading, but you're surprised and delighted by what you find around the corner. Keep your intentions clear, and tell everyone what you want in September.

December brings the stimulation you needed to make an exciting change. Take a fabulous vacation in January.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you're planning on extending your realm of influence by reaching out to new people, you've made a wise decision. New connections are easily made, and their pursuit also brings about romance, financial gain and entertainment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Efforts to look better are not made in vain. You take pride in your public image and your personal appearance. Enhanced self-esteem will benefit your health, whereas a lack of self-confidence drains your vitality.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Gregarious and outgoing, you'll attract love by being outgoing and widely accepting of others. At work, you may be privy to classified information—the power is in your hands.

A relative gives you a blessing in disguise.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Doubt and suspicion needn't be companions for too long, even if they show up early on. You'll soon be vindicated on an emotional family issue. Be alone for a few hours if you can.

Psychic powers are strong.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Self-motivation is lower than usual, so it's good to have encouraging friends

near. Attend gatherings and socialize. Get involved in stimulating community work or a spirited discussion; a worthwhile pastime helps you relax.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

You've got your eye on the big picture, but remember, success is in the small wins. Do not dismiss a family problem; it must be handled immediately. Luxury and opulence are part of the fun tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Stick to the plan, and you'll move forward. You are well prepared for increased responsibility, as long as recognition goes with it—

is it so bad to want to be acknowledged for your work? You certainly deserve it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

Rely on intuition; following your nose is lucky. Get ready for some new friends, perhaps from a faraway place. The course of true love runs straight, but the bills still have to be paid. Decide who is responsible for what.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Communication is the way to understanding. Listen to the voice of experience. Some good shopping tips come from a surprising source. Concentrate, and find ways to budget for a desired object.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The outcome of events that surround you now depends solely upon your attitude. Free your home and your emotions from dusty cobwebs. It's a good bet that you'll hear from or visit with distant family. Be patient.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

There's fun with a friend who may turn out to be a romance. A living partner who is also a friend is exactly what you need to stimulate your life. Financially, there's a chance to gain through better use of what you already have.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Solid groundwork, though it may be tedious at times, is the way to create good fortune. Flirty relationships are favored, as is finding a way to enjoy the evening that is inexpensive but entertaining. Hobbies are most rewarding.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



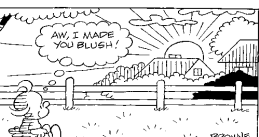
Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse



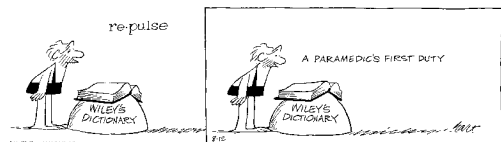
Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



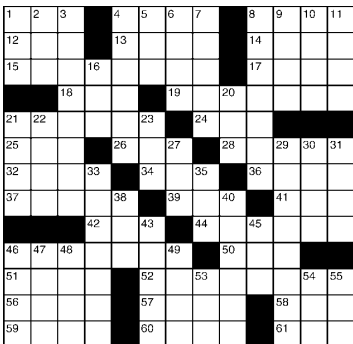
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Apiece
- 4 Domesticate
- 8 Prejudice
- 12 "The Greatest"
- 13 Paradise
- 14 Tend texts
- 15 CSA capital
- 17 Say it isn't so
- 18 Ball in a gym
- 19 Toothed
- 21 Nicholson wears them
- 24 Pair
- 25 Noted space station
- 26 Pirates' potable
- 28 He hit his 3,000th in 1999
- 32 Probability
- 34 Treasure seeker's aid
- 36 Marathon fraction
- 37 "Beau —"
- 41 Born
- 42 Wide st.
- 44 Prrll
- 46 On the other hand
- 50 "Le Coq —"
- 51 Ardor
- 52 Big name in rubber
- 56 Dixie Chicks' "Goodbye —"
- 57 Calm before the storm
- 58 Runner Sebastian
- 59 Sea eagle

Down

- 1 Standard
- 2 Yale student
- 3 "Seinfeld" cast member
- 4 Mood
- 5 Big bother
- 6 — rea (criminal intent)
- 7 Over and done with
- 8 Word with eyes or community
- 9 Conception
- 10 "— We Got Fun?"
- 11 Eyelid woe
- 16 Scuttle
- 20 Massage
- 21 Urban blight
- 22 Conceal
- 23 Bottom line
- 27 WWE surface
- 29 Former House Speaker
- 30 Merriment
- 31 Crystal gazer
- 33 Surprise suddenly
- 35 School of dolphins
- 38 Enos' granny
- 40 Walk like a duck
- 43 Two under
- 44 1-Down
- 45 Postal Creed word
- 46 Roller-coaster outcry
- 47 Get wind of
- 48 Make
- 49 Liquid entree
- 53 Flamenco call
- 54 Bill's partner
- 55 Chop

Answer to Previous Puzzle



8-12

CRYPTOQUIP

GS LZQN LSGSUWGDG.
UHG UW XCGWSQ LZN
UWYBGICPPN XH GBSCYBG

SI ZD Z GSSG ISU Z GSSG.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A MARRIAGE CEREMONY BECOMES REALLY DULL, I GUESS THAT'S A WEDDING BLIND.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals O

Mother-in-law needs to know place

Dear Abby: I'm writing in response to "The Girlfriend," who is having problems because of nasty comments from her boyfriend's mother.

I know all too well the damage that can result from such a situation. For 15 years, I endured potshots from the mother-in-law from hell. She ended up talking to my now 16-year-old daughter (her grand-daughter) the same way she had talked to me. After 13 years of staying on the sidelines, my husband finally told her to lay off. Of course, by then our marriage was almost over. Ironically, our divorce was finalized on my former mother-in-law's birthday — a fact from which I'm sure she got great pleasure.

My advice to "Girlfriend" is to check her boyfriend carefully for aporn strings before tying the knot with him. If he's afraid to speak in her defense, perhaps he

is no more ready for marriage than his mother wishes him to be.

— **Wiser Now in Wichita**

Dear Wiser Now: Thank you for sharing your own experience, and for pointing out that if verbal abuse is tolerated, the acid can spill over and damage innocent bystanders.

Read on:

Dear Abby: My advice to "The Girlfriend" is to deal with those cutting remarks from her boyfriend's mother by herself.

When the mother criticizes her manner of dress, she should say something like, "Oh! You've hurt my feelings. I would never think of criticizing how YOU dress," and then change the subject.

Under no circumstances should she allow herself to be drawn into an argument. If the mother criticizes her cooking, she should say, "I tried so hard to please

you. I'm sorry you don't like it. The next time we have dinner with you, we'll come to your house and you can cook or take us out." Do not cry, become hysterical or critical of her.

You'll be surprised what you can accomplish if you refuse to be baited or put on the defensive.

One last thing: Explain to your future husband how you will handle his mother after you are married. You will not give her a house key, you'll expect her to call before she comes over, you will control how often you see her and when she will see the grandchildren, and you will not tolerate any marital interference.

— **Queen of My Own Household, Costa Mesa, Calif.**

Dear Queen: Something tells me your mother-in-law had a rude awakening when she found out who rules your roost.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

Dear Abby



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter to each square.

to form four ordinary words.

VAHNE

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PLYSH

CLEBUC

TURAIN

www.jumble.com

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

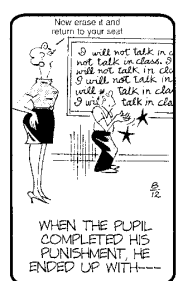
Ans: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHAFF VIXEN PALLID BRUTAL

Answer: What the scientist wanted to do after the earthquake — FIND FAULT

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron



When the pupil completed his punishment, he ended up with...

Charity requests draining wallet

Dear Annie: My wife and I frequently receive requests from family members and friends asking for money for charitable causes. For example, friends of ours are packing up their whole family and moving to a foreign country to do mission work for two years. They need to raise \$100,000 to support themselves, so they are soliciting donations. We have three family members who are doing a walk to benefit breast cancer research, and they each need to raise \$2,000.

While we agree that all of the causes are heartfelt and worthy, we are slowly being drained by these requests. At first, we donated what we could — \$20 here, \$30 there — but the requests are so numerous now that we don't know what to do. We don't have a lot of extra cash to pass around.

Annie's Mailbox



skates?

Dear Can't Afford It: Don't worry so much about what others will think of you.

If you can manage to donate a smaller amount, fine, but otherwise, simply say, "I wish we could help you out, but it's just not possible right now. Maybe next time."

Repeat as needed.

Dear Annie: I am writing in

The problem is, we feel awkward if we don't make a pledge or donation. We don't want them to think we are stingy or coldhearted, but we are overwhelmed. I appreciate people's good intentions, but how can we gracefully decline without hurting anyone's feelings or being thought selfish cheap-

response to "Crying Mother," who was upset because her daughters discussed putting her in a nursing home.

I am 51, and for years, my daughters have told me they are going to put me in a home.

One day while vacationing in Florida, I saw a big, beautiful house on a hill overlooking the ocean.

I looked at my daughters and said, "If you're putting me in a home, I want that one!"

— **Living Happily in Michigan**

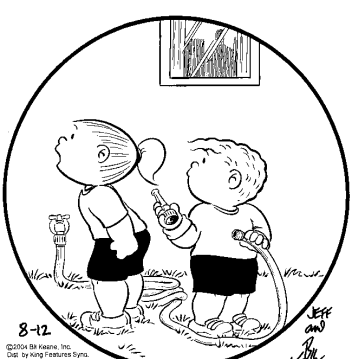
Dear Living: You have a cute sense of humor, but you are only 51, and "the home" seems distant.

Those closer to the actual event tend to find it much less amusing.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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Family Circus



8-12

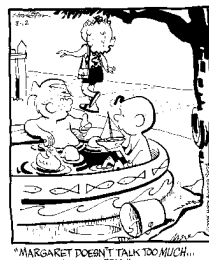
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"Jeffy took the muzzle off the hose."

GRAFFITI



Dennis the Menace



"MARGARET DOESN'T TALK TOO MUCH... SHE TALKS TOO OFTEN."

© Gary Larson

The Far Side



Non Sequitur



SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

All times Central European. AFN-AFN-Atlantic; PAC: AFN-Pacific/Korea; SPT: AFN-South; DET: AFN-Detroit. All times 9-10 minutes cut down. Listings are available from AFRTS and subject to change without notice.

Television

Australian Rules Football — 7 a.m. Friday (dtd) SPT. **Baseball** — N.Y. Yankees at Texas, 9 a.m. (dtd) SPT. **SST** N.Y. Yankees at Texas, 2 a.m. Friday, 1 a.m. Friday (dtd) SPT. **San Francisco at Pittsburgh** — 9 a.m. Friday (dtd) SPT. **SST** Los Angeles at Texas, 9 a.m. Friday (dtd) SPT. **Los Angeles at Oakland**, joined in progress, 4:30 a.m. Saturday. **Pro football** — NFL preseason: Atlanta at Baltimore, 2 a.m. Friday, AFN-A.

Radio

(Listings are feeds from AFN in Africa.) Some might not air in all areas.
Baseball — N.Y. Yankees at Texas, 2 a.m. Friday.
Baseball — 2:05 p.m. Friday, 13 p.m. Friday. AFN-Europe can be reached at 05N 22-444 or German club 055-85-84-04. Commercial calls from outside Germany must be made through a local telephone company code 0089. AFN-Atlantic's Web site is www.afn-atlantic.com. Click on "AFN-Atlantic" for latest schedules. AFN's parent organization, AFRTS at March Reserve Air Station, can be reached at 055-85-84-1119 or commercial (009) 413-2119. Its Web site is www.afn.net.

Pro soccer

Major League Soccer

Eastern Conference						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
MetroStars	9	6	5	32	36	34
Columbus	6	5	7	25	20	20
D.C. United	5	8	6	21	24	30
Chicago	4	8	7	19	19	24
New England	4	8	7	19	24	30
Western Conference						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	9	6	6	33	35	31
Kansas City	9	5	5	32	28	18
Dallas	7	7	5	26	24	25
Colorado	6	6	8	26	16	18
San Jose	6	6	6	24	30	26

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Sunday's game
Metropolitans at Los Angeles
Wednesday's games
Colorado at D.C. United
New England at Dallas
San Jose at Kansas City
Saturday, Aug. 14
San Jose at Kansas City
D.C. United at Chicago
Columbus at Los Angeles
Sunday, Aug. 15
Dallas at Metropolitans

Tennis

Isla Prokom Open

Wednesday
At Sopotki Club Tennis
Sopot, Poland
Purse: Men, \$60,543 (1st, Series);
Women, \$30,000 (1st, Series)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Play-off: Outdoor
Singles
Second Round
Rafael Nadal (6), Spain, def. Arnaud Di Pasquale, France, 6-2, 6-4.
Nicola Pietrangeli (3), Italy, def. Marcel Rosset, Switzerland, 6-4, 6-3.
Marat Safin (3), Russia, 6-2, 6-3, def. Marat Safin (3), Russia, 6-2, 6-3.

Women

Second Round

Lubomira Kurhajcova, Slovakia, def. Dinara Safina (3), Russia, 6-2, 6-3.
Marina Hrunova (10), Spain, def. Eva Birnerova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-4.
Silvia Taliani, Croatia, 1-6, 6-4, 6-2.
Felia Dancovichova, Poland, def. Anna Smashnova-Pistolesi (2), Israel, 7-6 (4), 6-1.
Lubomira Kurhajcova, Slovakia, def. Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, def. Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Vera Douchneva, Russia, 7-6 (3), 3-6, 6-4.

Men

First Round

Rafael Nadal (6), Spain, def. Javier Hanesch, Romania, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.
David Ferrer (3), Spain, def. Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, Spain, 6-2, 6-3.
Francisco Squallari, Argentina, def. Tomas Zeballos, Argentina, 6-2, 6-3.
Albert Portas, Spain, def. Martin Vassallo Arguello, Italy, 6-1, 6-2.
Arnaud Di Pasquale, France, def. Alex Calatrava, Spain, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.
Felia Dancovichova, Poland, def. Albert Portas, Spain, 6-2, 6-3.
Lubomira Kurhajcova, Slovakia, def. Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, def. Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Vera Douchneva, Russia, def. Alicia Alonso, Ukraine, 6-2, 6-3.
Nicola Pietrangeli (3), Italy, def. Magdalena Kiszczynska, Poland, 6-2, 6-3.
Dinara Safina (3), Russia, def. Barbara Schwartz, Austria, 6-1, 6-2.
Dinara Safina (3), Russia, def. Barbara Schwartz, Austria, 6-1, 6-2.
Pastikova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-4.
Flavia Pennetta (3), Italy, def. Sandra Mamic, Croatia, 6-1, 6-2.

Women

First Round

Nuria Llagostera Vives, Spain, def. Andrea Giamberini, Italy, 6-2, 6-3.
Silvia Taliani, Croatia, def. Selma Setta, Tunisia, 6-2, 6-3.
Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, def. Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Lubomira Kurhajcova, Slovakia, def. Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Vera Douchneva, Russia, def. Alicia Alonso, Ukraine, 6-2, 6-3.
Nicola Pietrangeli (3), Italy, def. Magdalena Kiszczynska, Poland, 6-2, 6-3.
Dinara Safina (3), Russia, def. Barbara Schwartz, Austria, 6-1, 6-2.
Dinara Safina (3), Russia, def. Barbara Schwartz, Austria, 6-1, 6-2.
Pastikova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-4.
Flavia Pennetta (3), Italy, def. Sandra Mamic, Croatia, 6-1, 6-2.

Vancouver Women's Open

Tuesday

At the Jericho Tennis Club
Vancouver, British Columbia
Purse: \$11,000 (Tie V)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Marissa Irvin (1), United States, def. Melien Tu, United States, 6-1, 6-1.
Camille Pin, France, def. Severine Beltrame, France, 6-2, retired.
Peng Shuai, China, def. Nathalie Grandin, South Africa, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1.
Hana Jirakova (1), Russia, def. Vanina Garza, Mexico, 6-1, 7-5, 6-1.
Lubomira Kurhajcova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Nicola Pietrangeli (3), Italy, def. Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Nicola Pietrangeli (3), Italy, def. Lidia Cernanova, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-3.
Bianchi Mattek, United States, def. Maureen Drake, Canada, 7-6 (2), 6-3.
Sini Karantachova, Bulgaria, def. Yulia Yoshida, Japan, 6-2, 6-3.
Marion Bartoli (1), France, def. Adriana Serra Zanetti, Italy, 6-1, 6-2.

Pro basketball

WNBA

Eastern Conference	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	12	13	52.00	—
Detroit	11	14	48.1	1
Charlotte	12	13	48.0	1
Washington	12	14	46.0	2
Indiana	12	15	44.0	3
Western Conference	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	17	8	68.0	1
Seattle	15	11	57.7	4
Minnesota	14	12	53.8	6
Sacramento	12	14	46.0	9
San Antonio	6	20	23.1	13

Thursday's game

U.S. Nationals 74, WNBA All-Stars 58
Detroit Tigers vs. Seattle
Indiana at Washington
Connecticut at Charlotte
Phoenix at Detroit
Minnesota at Houston
Seattle at Seattle
San Antonio at Los Angeles

Olympics

Wednesday's scores

SOCCER
Germany & China, 0-0
United States 3, Greece 0
Tennis
Japan 1, Sweden 0

Deals

Tuesday's transactions

BASEBALL
American League
ANAHIM ANGELS—Activated Jeff Doff from the 15-day DL, optioned C H Nieves to Salt Lake of the PCL.
DETROIT TIGERS—Designated RHP Danny Patterson for assignment. Purchased the contract of RHP John Ennis from Toledo of the PCL.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Optioned SS Angel Berro to Wichita of the Texas League. Designated RHP Ryan Kinsler for assignment. Purchased the contract of RHP John Ennis from Toledo of the PCL.
MINNESOTA TWINS—Optioned LHP Aaron Lundy to St. Paul of the PCL. Recalled RHP Matt Guerrier from Rochester.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Placed RHP Scott Lincecum on the 15-day DL. Purchased the contract of RHP Jose Garcia from Sacramento of the PCL.
SEATTLE MARINERS—Purchased the contract of RHP Jose Garcia from Sacramento of the PCL. Optioned RHP Cha Seung Bak to the PCL.

National League
ATLANTA BRAVES—Signed Mark Ericka, newsman director of community affairs, to a three-year contract, extension through the 2007 season. Reinstated RHP John Redding from the bereavement list.
CINCINNATI REDS—Activated LHP Joe Kennedy from the 15-day DL. Placed Todd Griggs on the 15-day DL. Designated RHP Travis Driskill for assignment. Called up C D. Cozzer from Colorado Springs of the PCL.
HOUSTON ASTROS—Placed LHP Darren Olt on the 15-day DL. Optioned RHP Tim Lincecum to New Orleans of the PCL. Reinstated RHP Chad Qualls and LHP Carlos Hernandez from the bereavement list.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Activated RHP Vinny Castilla from the 15-day DL. Added RHP Chris Lyle to the 25-man roster. Sent RHP Geoff Gentry to San Antonio/White-Barre of the L. Designated RHP Paul Abbott for assignment.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Waived C Steven Hunter.
SACRAMENTO KINGS—Signed F David Bluthenthal.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
CINCINNATI BENGALS—Signed RB Chris Perry.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Waived RB Seth Taylor. Signed F Jesse Stinson.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Released O Khamari Frazier.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Agreed to terms with DT Marcus Tubbs.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANERS—Signed WR Tim Brown.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS—Re-signed LW Mark Bell.
DALLAS STARS—Signed F Jaroslav Svoboda to a one-year contract.
OTTAWA SENATORS—Signed RW Andre Kostitsyn to a three-year contract.
NEW YORK RANGERS—Signed RW Mikko Voutilainen to a one-year contract.

NEW YORK RANGERS—Signed F Michael Nylander to a one-year contract. Signed F Jarne Lundmark to a one-year contract.
OTTAWA SENATORS—Signed F Zdeno Chára to a two-year contract.
NEW YORK RANGERS—Signed D Thomas Kaberle to a two-year contract.

Hamm leads U.S. women to Greece

BY JOSEPH WHITE

The Associated Press

IRAKLION, Greece — Mia Hamm began her final Olympics with a stutter-step that left her embarrassed Greece defender sprawling on the grass.

Hamm then calmly passed the ball to Shannon Boxx, who scored the goal that sent the U.S. women's soccer team on its way to a comfortable 3-0 victory over Greece on Wednesday on the first day of competition in the 2004 Olympic Games.

Hamm later added a goal of her own, outmaneuvering two defenders for a 16-yard shot that banked off the left post. In between, Abby Wambach continued her remarkable scoring run with her 15th goal in 16 games as the Americans overwhelmed a team that qualified for the tournament only because it represents the host nation.

Women's soccer is barely recognized in Greece, and eight of the team's 18 players are Greek-Americans who have played for U.S. colleges. The Americans outshot their opponents 26-1, and Greece's lone shot was wide of the net. Briana Scurry got her 70th career shut-out without having to make a save.

The U.S. team, looking to re-establish its supremacy after disappointing finishes in the 2000 Olympics and 2003 World Cup, continues first-round play Saturday against Brazil in the Olympic quarterfinals. The U.S. are playing in their final tournament together.

The lack of enthusiasm for women's soccer in Greece was evident in the disappointing crowd at kickoff in the seaside, fully renovated Pankrati Stadium on the island of Crete. More than two-thirds of the 27,000 seats were empty when the game began, although the cheaper end zone seats were nearing capacity in the second half, raising the announced attendance to 15,757. Sporadic chants of "Greece! Greece!" failed to rally the home team.

Greece actually took the first shot of the game, but their players' adrenaline kept them competitive for only a few minutes. The Americans were soon dominating possession with crisp passes all over the field. Aly Wagner hit the crossbar in the fifth minute, and Boxx hit the right post two minutes later.

Then Hamm went to work on Angeliki Lagoutzaki, shaking the Greece defender completely off balance on the left flank. With Lagoutzaki on the ground, Hamm had a clear alley for her pass to Wambach or Boxx in the center of the penalty area. Wambach hit the ball, but it was between her legs, allowing to Boxx to nail the 12-yard shot to the left of goalkeeper Maria Giaktraki in the 41st minute.

In the 45th minute, Hamm stole the ball to set up a solo run for her 152nd goal in international play, by far the world record. She is one of the "Fab Five" 1991 World Cup veterans who are playing in their final tournament together.

Spurs re-sign Horry

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Forward Robert Horry, owner of five NBA championship rings, re-signed with the San Antonio Spurs on Thursday. Terms were not released.

The deal came a day after San Antonio signed a pair of power forwards: 12-year veteran Tony Massenburg and Sean Marks, who spent last season on the Spurs' injured list.

The 34-year-old Horry, who turns 34 this month, averaged 4.8 points and 3.4 rebounds in 81 games with San Antonio last season.

He also played in all 10 of the Spurs' playoff games, averaging 6.1 points and 6.3 rebounds.

But last month the team declined to exercise its \$5 million option to keep Horry, making him an unrestricted free agent.

Horry, going into his 13th NBA season, picked up leagues titles with the Houston Rockets in 1994 and 1995, then three more with the Los Angeles Lakers in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

NBA briefs

him become a free agent.
For his career, Horry has averaged 7.7 points, 5.2 rebounds and 2.4 assists in 856 games. His postseason averages are slightly higher.

He ranks second in NBA Finals history with 38 minutes, behind only Michael Jordan. Among active players, Horry ranks 10th in playoff points and sixth in rebounds.

Kings sign Bluthenthal

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The Sacramento Kings signed forward David Bluthenthal to a one-year contract.

Bluthenthal, a 6-foot-7, 220-pound free agent, played in 152 straight past season for Maccabi Tel-Aviv of the Euroleague. He averaged 6.1 points and 1.3 rebounds in 17 games.

Bluthenthal has never played in the NBA although he has played on summer league teams for the Miami Heat and Toronto Raptors. He averaged 16.5 points and 4.5 rebounds in seven games for the Kings' summer league team this year.

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Winslow Jr. ends holdout, signs with Browns

TE taken sixth gets six-year deal reportedly worth up to \$40 million

BY JOE MILICIA

The Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — Kellen Winslow Jr. can begin his pursuit of eclipsing his father's Hall of Fame career.

He's already made more money without catching a pass.

Winslow signed a six-year contract Wednesday morning with the Cleveland Browns and was attending his first practice, wearing a No. 11 jersey, team spokeswoman Julia Payne said.

A team source told The Associated Press the deal has a base salary of \$29 million and could be worth up to \$40 million if Winslow reaches all his incentives. It also includes a \$16.5 million signing bonus, according to the source, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

The 6-foot-4, 250-pound Winslow is the son of Hall of Fame tight end Kellen Winslow Sr. and calls himself "The Chosen One."

Winslow Jr. says he expects to exceed his father's accomplishments. Winslow Sr. says that at this point, his son is better than he was.

The Browns have not had a tight end with Winslow Jr. as a combination of size, speed and athleticism since Hall of Famer Ozzie Newsome in the 1980s.

The Browns moved up one spot in April's draft to select the former Miami star with the sixth selection, sending the seventh overall pick and a second-round pick to Detroit.

The team and Winslow's agent, Kevin Poston, were reportedly \$12 million to \$22 million apart

during the negotiations, with Poston seeking a contract similar to the six-year, \$34.6 million deal that he negotiated for wideout Charles Rogers last year with Detroit.

But a series of talks that began over the weekend between Poston and Browns President John Collins culminated in a deal Tuesday night.

Poston is a renowned tough negotiator who along with his brother, Carl, represents other prominent NFL clients currently in contract holdouts.

Winslow began his 12-day holdout on July 30 when Poston rejected the Browns' initial offer — a six-year, \$40 million deal that matched what Washington gave safety Sean Taylor, the No. 5 selection.

The deal Winslow agreed to is for the same amount but includes a higher signing bonus and base salary.

Last week, Browns quarterback Jeff Garcia implored Winslow to get to camp, saying, "You are going to get your riches no matter what, but you need to think about the team."

Garcia said he and Winslow have traded phone messages in which the rookie said he was frustrated with negotiations.

Winslow has a reputation as a fiery competitor, which has caused him problems in the past.

In his final season with the Hurricanes, he made headlines for a postgame tirade following a loss to Tennessee in which he called himself a "soldier" and compared the game to being at war. He later apologized.



Kellen Winslow Jr. (11), shown at Cleveland Browns minicamp in April, ended his 12-day holdout, giving the Browns their most athletic tight end since the '80s.

WR Brown reunited with Bucs' Gruden

The Associated Press

Tim Brown was reunited with Jon Gruden on Tuesday when he signed with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, joining the man who coached him in Oakland for four seasons.

The 38-year-old, nine-time Pro Bowl receiver will be counted on to bolster a receiving corps that is in desperate need of experienced help because of injuries and Keenan McCardell's holdout.

Meanwhile, running back Chris Perry ended an 11-day holdout by signing with Cincinnati. Perry was the 26th overall pick in the draft.

His signing leaves three first-rounders unsigned, most notably quarterback Philip Rivers with San Diego. Tight end Kellen Winslow Jr. agreed to terms with the Cleveland Browns on a six-year contract Tuesday night, ending his 12-day holdout.

"We're just excited to have him here," Bengals coach Marvin Lewis said of Perry. "It's a process that's taken a little time, but that's part of it."

Brown became a Buc after being released last week after 16 seasons with the Raiders after he fell to fourth or fifth in a receiving corps that includes Jerry Rice and Jerry Porter.

With Tampa Bay, Brown could wind up being a starter with McCardell demanding a raise after a Pro Bowl season and Joe Jurevics out indefinitely after undergoing back surgery earlier this month.

The Bucs also claim rookie receiver Michael Clayton, the team's first-round draft pick, can benefit from being around and learning from the 17th-year pro.

Brown played a franchise-record 240 games for Oakland and his streak of 173 consecutive games with at least one reception is the second-longest in NFL history behind Rice's 273.



Veteran WR Tim Brown had fallen to fourth or fifth on the Oakland Raiders' depth chart, but he should be able to help the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' depleted receiving corps immediately.

Cardinals: Arizona is waiting anxiously for test results on the right knee of Anquan Boldin, the NFL offensive rookie of the year last season.

The Cardinals' only Pro Bowl player injured his right knee Tuesday morning while loosening up for practice and was carted from the field. That came after he experienced soreness in the same knee on Monday, sitting out a morning practice, but he participated in an afternoon walk-through.

Boldin had X-rays and an MRI exam but results will not be available until Wednesday because orthopedic Dr. Russell Chalk, who administered the tests, also operated on running back Marcel Shipp's broken left leg Tuesday.

Last season, Boldin set an NFL rookie record with 101 receptions, led the most yards receiving (1,377) by a rookie since Houston's Bill Groman in 1960 and established a franchise rookie record with eight scoring grabs.

Eagles: Jevon Kearse returned to practice Tuesday after leaving the field on Monday with a sprained left ankle.

"The ankle is 100 percent better," Kearse said. "If it wasn't well, I wouldn't have been able to practice."



Veteran WR Tim Brown had fallen to fourth or fifth on the Oakland Raiders' depth chart, but he should be able to help the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' depleted receiving corps immediately.

Kearse plans to play in the pre-season opener on Friday night against New England.

The defensive end, who signed an eight-year, \$66 million deal with the Eagles in March, was carted off the field Monday after he hurt his ankle — the same one he injured last year in Tennessee, forcing him to miss two games.

Meanwhile, backup quarterback Joe Detmer underwent arthroscopic knee surgery. He is expected to miss about two weeks. Veteran Jeff Blake will be the second-team quarterback for the Eagles on Friday.

Jaguars: Jacksonville waived kicker Seth Marler on Tuesday after he strained his quadriceps muscle several times during the five-week training camp.

Coach Jack Del Rio said that if Marler clears waivers that the Jaguars will re-sign him and place him on injured reserve for the season.

Marler was the regular kicker for the team last season, making 20 of 33 field goals. The injury leaves Jacksonville with Jeff Chandler and Josh Scobee competing for the job.

Bryant case prosecutors request indefinite delay

BY JON SARCHÉ

The Associated Press

DENVER — Prosecutors in the Kobe Bryant case asked the judge to delay his trial indefinitely, saying the accuser has been affected by developments in the case and the release of closed-door testimony has hurt their ability to get a fair jury.

The motion was made public Wednesday but submitted Tuesday, the day the 20-year-old woman who accused the NBA star of sexual assault filed a civil lawsuit seeking monetary damages from him.

In a court filing, prosecutor Dana Easter said the release of the hearing transcript detailing a defense expert's testimony about the accuser's sexual activities was "extremely harmful" to the prosecution's case. She said a strict gag order issued by District Judge Terry Ruckelshaus has prevented the prosecution from responding.

There has been "an absence of balance in the information released," Easter wrote. "The release of this information 28 days prior to trial will have the effect of tainting the jury pool and impact the ability of the prosecution to obtain a fair jury at this time."

Bryant's selection is scheduled to begin Aug. 27. Defense attorney Pamela Mackey did not return a call, nor did the accuser's attorneys. Prosecution spokeswoman Krista Flannigan refused to comment further, saying the filing spoke for itself.

Bryant 25, has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault. He has said he had no consensual sex with the woman, then 19, at the Vail-area resort where she worked last summer. The Los Angeles Lakers star faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation, and a fine of up to \$750,000 if convicted.

The prosecution filing does not

mention the civil suit filed in federal court in Denver, which seeks compensatory damages of at least \$75,000, with punitive damages to be determined later. Legal experts said the suit will hurt prosecutors because the defense can argue that the woman is trying for a financial award in a separate proceeding.

"Now all of a sudden it looks like this thing was for money. If it's otherwise, then why would she file a civil case?" said Dan Recht, former president of the Colorado Criminal Bar Association. "In my mind, they would never file a civil case without having a strategy of getting the criminal case dismissed."

Attorneys John Clune and Lin Wood said their client was owed money for pain, "public scorn, hatred and ridicule" she has suffered as a result of the alleged attack last summer. They also accused Bryant of similar misconduct involving other women, but provided no details.

To win a civil lawsuit, a plaintiff must prove only that it is more likely than not harm was caused by the defendant. Prosecutors in a criminal case have to convince jurors beyond a reasonable doubt a defendant committed a crime, a much higher standard of proof.

In the prosecution motion, Easter also said Ruckelshaus has not yet ruled whether the defense can present evidence on the woman's mental health and allegations of drug and alcohol use. Prosecutors would need to hire expert witnesses to counter such evidence, a move they don't want to make until there is a ruling because of tight judicial budgets, she said.

As for the accuser, Easter said testimony on the mental health and drug issues "was extremely intrusive and personal."

"Delayed rulings on these two issues have had a substantial impact on the victim's ability to anticipate and prepare her testimony for trial," she said.

Little Leaguers' families in it for the long haul

Fans, teams log plenty of miles to reach Transatlantic Regional

BY RUSTY BRYAN
Stars and Stripes

KUTNO, Poland — For the parents of Little Leaguers participating in the Transatlantic Regional tournament here, getting to far-off Poland requires just a few more of those thousands of miles parents routinely go on behalf of their children.

"We drove here," said Christie Lehr, whose son, Jordan, plays on the Brunsum-Schinnen all-star team which is representing the Netherlands.

"It took 16 hours," she said, adding for emphasis, "Make sure you put it there that it was LONG."

And not just for the contingent from the Netherlands.

Kutno, located in central Poland about 70 miles west of Warsaw, is a long haul for all seven teams vying for the berth in the Little League World Series.

The teams from Naples, Italy, London, Madrid, Spain, Brussels, Belgium and Dharhan, Saudi Arabia flew in to Warsaw, then rode chartered buses for two hours

over the bumpy two-lane highway to Kutno.

Teams from Ramstein, Germany, and the Netherlands drove all the way, transitioning from high-speed motorways in Holland and Germany to mostly rutted two-lane roads that wind along most of the 200-plus miles from the Polish-German frontier to Kutno.

"Planes, trains and buses," was the way Michelle Richardson of Naples described her trip from Italy. Their 12-plus hour journey behind them, Richardson and her husband, Gerald, were looking forward Tuesday to watching their son Jorgio, 12, and his Italy champion teammates take on Belgium in a crucial game for both teams in their quest to make Thursday's semifinals.

"We're going to see our first game today," Gerald Richardson said. "We're trying to make fourth place."

While the Richardsons were preparing for their first day, many of the parents have been



Netherlands rooters, from left, Melissa Leugers, Charlotte Miller, Christie Lehr, Dianne Tremblay and Kenyon Lehr wait for their team to take the field Tuesday in Kutno, Poland.

RUSTY BRYAN/Stripes

here since the tournament started on Aug. 5 — taking time off from jobs and trying to keep younger siblings occupied.

Keenan Lehr, 6, a soccer player, passes his time playing on the large rocks outside the stadium, and, his mother added, "Game-bus."

Other children, younger sisters from Saudi Arabia and Ramstein, for example, play games with each other in and under the grand-

stands while their big brothers and sisters play games on the fields.

For the parents, though, baseball itself is pastime aplenty, especially in Kutno, where sightseeing is at a minimum.

"I've enjoyed watching the games," Melissa Leugers, mother of Netherlands outfielder Matthew, 12, "even when we're not playing."

And despite the travel time in-

volvement, parental opinion was unanimous about the value of the time spent here.

"It's good for the kids," said Gerald Richardson, "a great experience."

Even if it's a little inconvenient getting here.

"Next year," said Christie Lehr, perhaps thinking about the long road home, "maybe it'd be better to take the train."

E-mail Rusty Bryan at: bryanr@mail.estrpes.osd.mil

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Ramstein recovers vs. Naples

BY RUSTY BRYAN
Stars and Stripes

KUTNO, Poland — Ramstein pitchers found it a little hard to find the strike zone on Wednesday. But they were able to right the ship in time to pull out a 12-9 victory over Naples in Little League Baseball's Transatlantic Regional tournament.

Ramstein — behind the two-hit pitching of Dreshawn Murray — jumped out to a 10-1 lead before Murray gave way to Jacob Groth to start the fifth inning.

After retiring Devon Mitchell on a popout, things got interesting. Groth walked three batters to load the bases. He turned the ball over to Connor Vitke, who hit the first batter he faced, then walked the next five batters.

Vitke yielded to Augustin Ortiz, who hit Jorgio Richardson — who has been hit five times this week — and then walked Tyler Jacobson to force in the eighth run of the inning.

All scored without the benefit of a base hit.

"We just couldn't get a strike," Ramstein coach Andre Murray

Little League

said. "We had a bad inning, but we adjusted and adapted."

Ramstein adapted by re-inserting star slugger/pitcher Chris Johnson in the bottom of the fifth.

Johnson responded by cracking a two-run homer, then shutting down Naples in the top of the sixth to seal the victory.

Johnson's homer was his tournament-leading fifth. Saudi Arabia's Joel Reimer hit his fourth earlier in the day.

Because of the head-to-head tiebreaker, both teams had already qualified for today's semifinals before their game started.

Ramstein nailed down the second seed with its 8-6 victory over England on Tuesday. Naples advanced because it beat Spain 6-4 in extra innings last Thursday.

Spain's only chance to deprive Naples of a semifinal berth evaporated when England beat Spain 13-4 in Wednesday's first game.

In Thursday's semis, Naples (2-4) will face Saudi Arabia (6-0),

which beat them 20-0 in pool play, and Ramstein (5-1) has a rematch against England (4-2).

England 13, Spain 4: The London Area Little League all-stars got to Madrid ace Buckey Ribbeck for four runs in each of the first three innings en route to the nine-run victory.

First baseman Jordan Pasche clubbed his second home run as many as days for England. Teammate John Dileo belted a pair of doubles on a 3-for-4 day.

Spain fell to 2-4.

Saudi Arabia 12, Belgium 0 (4): Saudi pitchers threw their second straight no-hitter — and their fourth in six games.

Josh Amado, who struck out the side in the first, and Charles Fitzmaurice, who pitched the final three innings, combined to record 11 of Belgium's 12 outs by strikeout. Fitzmaurice did walk two batters in the third.

Reimer hit a home run in an eight-run first for Saudi.

Belgium finished its tournament at 1-5.

E-mail Rusty Bryan at: bryanr@mail.estrpes.osd.mil

Glavine loses two teeth in taxi accident

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mets pitcher Tom Glavine lost his two front upper teeth in an automobile accident Tuesday while going from LaGuardia Airport to nearby Sheepshead in a taxi cab.

Glavine also got stitches for a cut lower lip. He was to be released from a hospital Tuesday night and miss his start Wednes-

day against Houston.

"I'm just thankful it's not worse," Mets manager Art Howe said. "We're looking forward to having him back, whenever that is. We don't know when that will be."

The accident occurred at 2:15 p.m. as Glavine headed to the ball park. The left-hander had spent Monday's off-day with his family

in Atlanta.

Glavine was leaving LaGuardia in a taxi that collided with a SUV on the overpass of the Grand Central Parkway as he left the airport grounds, the Mets said.

Port Authority police and the New York Police Department responded to the crash, and the Emergency Medical Service took Glavine by ambulance to NYU Medical Center in Manhattan.

Mariners' Martinez shows he's not done yet

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Edgar Martinez is far from finished.

In his first game since announcing he will retire at the end of this season, Martinez hit a two-run homer to lead the Seattle Mariners to a 4-3 victory over the Minnesota Twins on Tuesday night.

"That doesn't happen every night," he said.

The two-time AL batting champion received a stirring ovation from the Safeco Field crowd of 36,290 before the game. He didn't disappoint, connecting off Terry Mulholland in the first inning for his ninth home run of the year.

"That was great," Martinez said.

"They've always been great to me. That was pretty amazing to me."

One of the game's greatest designated hitters, the 41-year-old Martinez is in his 18th major league season — all with Seattle.

As far as his opponents are concerned, he hung around too long.

Minnesota manager Ron Gardenhire was hoping Martinez would retire immediately Monday, not at the end of the season.

"That way we wouldn't have had to face him any more because he has done that to us many, many times," Gardenhire said.

Gi Meche pitched two-hit ball through eight innings in his third start for Seattle since being called up from Triple-A Tacoma on July 30. In his game winner last season, he got his only other major league victory this season on May 2 in Detroit.

Meche (2-5) walked two and struck out seven in his 13th big league start of 2004.

AL Roundup

"It felt real good," he said.

"I think it felt real good to everybody in here to get a win. Obviously for me, I hadn't won a game in a long time. This is definitely what I'm looking to come back here and do."

Bucky Jacobsen also hit a two-run homer in the first off Mulholland (3-6). The AL Central-leading Twins lost their third straight and fifth in six games.

Both runs off Meche came on homers. Corey Koskie homered in the fifth for Minnesota's first hit, and pinch-hitter Lew Ford connected in the eighth.

J.J. Putz pitched the ninth for his second save. He gave up a solo shot to Torii Hunter.

Regular closer Eddie Guardado has a torn rotator cuff in his pitching shoulder that probably will require season-ending surgery.

The Seattle left-hander is expected to miss eight to 12 months.

But that didn't stop Martinez and the last-place Mariners from pitching a warm moment Tuesday night.

"It was a thrill for me," he said.

Orioles 11, Angels 3: Miguel Tejada went 3-for-5 and tied a season high with five RBIs to help visiting Baltimore extend its winning streak to eight.

Larry Bigbie homered, Brian Roberts tied a career high with four hits and David Newhan was 3-for-5 with three RBIs for the Orioles, who had a season-high 21 games. Seattle right-hander Daniel



Seattle DH Edgar Martinez is greeted in the dugout after hitting a two-run homer in the first inning of the Mariners' 4-3 win over the Minnesota Twins on Tuesday in Seattle. It was Martinez's first game since announcing he would retire at the end of the season.

Cabrera (9-5) allowed three runs in six innings, ended Anaheim's five-game winning streak.

Aaron Sele (7-1) was charged with six runs — four earned — and a career-worst 13 hits in 4¹/₂ innings.

Anaheim rookie Robb Quinlan extended his hitting streak to 21 games.

Athletics 5, Tigers 4: At Oakland, Calif., Eric Chavez hit a three-run homer and Barry Zito (8-8) pitched seven innings to win for the third time in four starts. Octavio Dotel earned his 10th save in 14 tries with the Athletics.

Rangers 7, Yankees 1: Ryan Drese (9-6) pitched seven shutout innings and former Yankee Alfonso

so Soriano doubled twice and scored three times for the home-standing Rangers.

David Dellucci, also a former Yankee, and Mark Teixeira hit two-run homers to help Texas end a four-game skid.

Kevin Brown (9-2) lost for the first time in six starts, his worst performance since returning from the disabled list on July 30. Both his losses have come against his former team.

Red Sox 8, Devil Rays 4: At Boston, Jason Varitek, Bill Mueller, Orlando Cabrera and Kevin Youkilis each drove in two runs to back Bronson Arroyo (5-8).

Manny Ramirez went 0-for-4 with three strikeouts after missing three straight games because of the flu.

Indians 2, Blue Jays 0: Chad Durbin (5-4) allowed four hits in seven innings at Jacobs Field and struck out a career-high seven. Ronnie Belliard hit a two-run double for the second-place Indians, who won for the sixth time in seven games.

Bob Wickman finished for his fifth save.

White Sox 9, Royals 3: At Chicago, leadoff batter Willie Harris went 5-for-5, Carlos Lee hit a three-run homer and Paul Konerko added a two-run shot to help the White Sox win for the fourth time in six games.

Jon Garland (8-8) pitched seven solid innings.

Kansas City has lost five in a row to face a season-low 33 games under .500 (39-72), the worst record after 111 games in the franchise's 36-year history.

Before the game, the Royals optioned 2003 AL Rookie of the Year Angel Berroa to Double-A Wichita.

Edmonds lifts Cardinals with homer in 10th

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Two hits were enough for St. Louis to beat Florida.

Albert Pujols ended Josh Beckett's no-hit bid with a sixth-inning homer, and Jim Edmonds homered the first pitch in the 10th inning to lead the Cardinals to their sixth straight victory, a 2-1 win Tuesday night.

"We've won some unusual games this year, and I'd put this one right up there with them," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said.

Florida had seven hits but was shut out after Alex Gonzalez doubled home a run in the second. St. Louis won for the 19th time in 24 games since the All-Star break.

Julian Tavarez (5-3) pitched 2¹/₂ hitless innings, and Jason Isringhausen followed with the perfect 10th for his 30th save. Guillermo Mota (8-5) gave up Edmonds' 31st home run.

Cardinals right-hander Chris Carpenter pitched just 2¹/₂ innings before being depowered because of tightness in his lower back.

Padres 8, Cubs 6: Ramon Hernandez had three hits, including a three-run homer, to help visiting

AL Roundup

San Diego move within one game of the Cubs for the NL wild-card bid.

Chicago's Sammy Sosa hit his 56th homer to move past Reggie Jackson into sole possession of eighth place on the career list.

Cubs starter Mark Prior (3-3) allowed six runs, eight hits, five walks, a hit batter and a balk in three-plus innings.

Adam Eaton (7-10) lasted five-plus innings, allowing solo homers to Sosa, Moises Alou, Derrek Lee and Nomar Garciaparra — his first since the Cubs acquired him from the Red Sox on July 31. Eaton also hit a tiebreaking two-run single in the third.

Trevor Hoffman got three outs for his 30th save, retiring Ramon Martinez on a game-ending flyout with two on.

Rockies 5, Phillies 4: Pinch-hitter Vinny Castilla hit a go-ahead two-run double off Tim Lincecum (3-5), and Luis Gonzalez added a sacrifice fly in the three-run ninth as the visiting Rockies won their second straight over the Phillies.

Jerome Burnitz hit his 31st homer, and Charles Johnson added a solo shot for Colorado, which is 4-1 since trading Larry Walker to St. Louis. Steve Reed (3-2) was the winner.

Dodgers 5, Reds 2: Steve Finley hit his first homer with Los Angeles, Adrian Beltré also homered and Jose Lima (11-3) pitched allowed two runs and five hits in eight innings. Eric Gagne got three straight outs for his 34th save.

Cincinnati's Adam Dunn hit a solo shot in the fourth that traveled an estimated 535 feet, the longest at Great American Ball Park. He leads the majors with 35 homers.

Pirates 8, Giants 7: Barry Bonds set a major league record by reaching 30 home runs for the 13th straight season.

Rob Mackowiak hit an RBI double off Matt Herges (4-5) with two outs in the ninth as homesteading Pittsburgh won its third straight.

Michael Tucker had tied the score 7-all in the top half against Jose Mesa (3-1) with his second homer of the game.

Brewers 3, Braves 2 (10):

Chris Magruder homered off Tom Martin (0-2) in the 10th with visiting Milwaukee rallied from a 2-0 deficit to stop Atlanta's five-game winning streak. It was only the Braves' third loss in 17 games.

Jon Adams (2-1) pitched out of a two-on jam in the ninth for the win, and Dan Kolb earned his 32nd save.

Mets 7, Astros 3: Rookie David Wright singled home the go-ahead run and hit his first Shea Stadium homer as the Mets ended a three-game losing streak and handed Houston its fifth loss in six games.

Richard Hidalgo delivered a key double against the club that traded him in mid-June, and Jose Reyes hit a two-run triple.

Steve Trachsel (10-8) won for the first time in six starts since the All-Star break, allowing three runs and seven hits in seven innings. Pete Munro (2-4), who grew up near Shea Stadium, gave up four runs — three earned — and seven hits in five innings.

Expos 4, Diamondbacks 0: At Montreal, Livan Hernandez (9-10) struck out eight in eight innings, and Luis Ayala finished as



St. Louis Cardinals' Jim Edmonds homered off Florida Marlins reliever Guillermo Mota in the 10th inning of Tuesday's 2-1 victory.

the Expos won their third straight.

Johnson (11-10), 1-4 in his last seven starts, allowed three runs and five hits in six innings. Arizona, a major league-worst 35-79, has lost 42 of its last 51.

Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	67	1	.634	
Boston	61	59	.509	16 1/2
Baltimore	54	67	.446	23 1/2
Toronto	48	73	.397	29 1/2

Central Division

Minnesota	62	50	.554	
Chicago	59	53	.518	4
Cleveland	61	45	.509	5
Kansas City	49	72	.403	22 1/2

West Division

Oakland	68	57	.541	
Texas	61	50	.550	7 1/2
Anaheim	62	51	.549	7 1/2
Seattle	50	63	.439	27 1/2

Tuesday's games

Boston @ Tampa Bay	1-0
Cleveland @ Toronto	0
Chicago White Sox @ Kansas City	3
Seattle @ Minnesota	1
Baltimore @ Anaheim	3
Oakland @ Detroit	5

Wednesday's games

Detroit @ Oakland	1
Tampa Bay @ Boston	0
Toronto @ Cleveland	0
Kansas City @ Chicago White Sox	0
Los Angeles @ Seattle	0

Thursday's games

Tampa Bay @ Detroit	8-10
Los Angeles @ Seattle	1-0
Kansas City @ Toronto	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	9-5
Detroit @ Toronto	7-8

Friday's games

Chicago White Sox @ Boston	1-0
Baltimore @ Toronto	0
Minnesota @ Cleveland	0
Kansas City @ Oakland	1
N.Y. Yankees @ Anaheim	0
Detroit @ Anaheim	0

Saturday's games

Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0
Tampa Bay @ Detroit	0
Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0

Sunday's games

Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0
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Monday's games

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Sunday's games

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Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0
Tampa Bay @ Detroit	0
Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0

National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	68	51	.569	
Philadelphia	61	58	.511	7 1/2
Florida	55	64	.462	14 1/2
Montreal	48	71	.401	21 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	73	58	.558	
Cincinnati	61	51	.545	12 1/2
Houston	58	58	.500	18 1/2
Colorado	53	63	.451	25 1/2
Milwaukee	53	64	.447	26 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	65	55	.540	
San Diego	60	52	.536	7 1/2
Arizona	51	61	.451	16 1/2
Colorado	48	64	.428	22 1/2

Tuesday's games

Montreal @ Pittsburgh	1-0
St. Louis @ Florida	10-11
Pittsburgh @ Philadelphia	4
N.Y. Mets @ Houston	0
Los Angeles @ Cincinnati	2
Milwaukee @ St. Louis	10-11

Wednesday's games

Milwaukee @ Atlanta	0
Arizona @ Montreal	0
Colorado @ Philadelphia	0
San Francisco @ Pittsburgh	0
Houston @ N.Y. Mets	0
San Francisco @ Cincinnati	0
San Diego @ Chicago Cubs	0

Thursday's games

Houston (Pittsburgh 6-4) @ N.Y. Mets	5
Los Angeles (Philadelphia 6-3) @ Cincinnati	0
Arizona (Cincinnati 1-3) @ Montreal	0
Colorado (St. Louis 11-4) @ Philadelphia	0
Los Angeles (St. Louis 11-4) @ Philadelphia	0
Los Angeles (St. Louis 11-4) @ Philadelphia	0

Friday's games

Houston @ Chicago Cubs	0
Arizona @ Montreal	0
San Francisco @ Philadelphia	0
San Francisco @ Pittsburgh	0
Arizona @ N.Y. Mets	0
San Diego @ Cincinnati	0
St. Louis @ Atlanta	0
Florida @ Atlanta	0

Saturday's games

Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0
Tampa Bay @ Detroit	0
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Wednesday's games

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Colorado @ Philadelphia	0
San Francisco @ Pittsburgh	0
Houston @ N.Y. Mets	0
San Francisco @ Cincinnati	0
San Diego @ Chicago Cubs	0

Thursday's games

Houston (Pittsburgh 6-4) @ N.Y. Mets	5
Los Angeles (Philadelphia 6-3) @ Cincinnati	0
Arizona (Cincinnati 1-3) @ Montreal	0
Colorado (St. Louis 11-4) @ Philadelphia	0
Los Angeles (St. Louis 11-4) @ Philadelphia	0
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San Francisco @ Pittsburgh	0
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Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0

Sunday's games

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Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0
Tampa Bay @ Detroit	0
Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0

Pirates & Giants 7

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Philadelphia	61	58	.511	7 1/2
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Colorado @ Philadelphia	0
San Francisco @ Pittsburgh	0
Houston @ N.Y. Mets	0
San Francisco @ Cincinnati	0
San Diego @ Chicago Cubs	0

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Houston (Pittsburgh 6-4) @ N.Y. Mets	5
Los Angeles (Philadelphia 6-3) @ Cincinnati	0
Arizona (Cincinnati 1-3) @ Montreal	0
Colorado (St. Louis 11-4) @ Philadelphia	0
Los Angeles (St. Louis 11-4) @ Philadelphia	0
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San Francisco @ Philadelphia	0
San Francisco @ Pittsburgh	0
Arizona @ N.Y. Mets	0
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St. Louis @ Atlanta	0
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Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0

Tuesday's games

Los Angeles @ Seattle	0
Chicago White Sox @ Baltimore	0

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Serena Williams pulls out of Games because of injury

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Serena Williams pulled out of the Summer Olympics just hours before she was to travel to Greece with her U.S. tennis teammates.

In New York to catch the team's flight, the six-time Grand Slam singles champion saw a doctor and was told not to play in Athens because of pain in her left knee, U.S. Tennis Association spokesman Randy Walker said



Wednesday.

The doctor "advised her that if she were to play, she'd risk serious long-term repercussions on her knee," Walker said.

U.S. coach Zina Garrison, who said last week she expected Williams to play, could not immediately be reached for comment because the team was traveling. They were expected to arrive in

Athens on Wednesday afternoon.

Williams, who earlier this year expressed concern about safety in Athens, withdrew from WTA tournaments in San Diego and Montreal in the past few weeks because of swelling in the knee.

The former No. 1-ranked player will be replaced in the singles draw for the Aug. 15-22 Athens tournament by Australia's Samantha Stosur. The No. 96 Stosur, already entered in doubles, was the highest-ranked player in Athens

who wasn't in the singles draw.

Teams were allowed to replace players on their rosters until last Saturday.

Williams' withdrawal came a day after 1992 singles gold medalist Jennifer Capriati announced she wouldn't play because of a hamstring injury. Capriati's spot in the Athens singles event was taken by 40th-ranked Lisa Raymond, who's also playing doubles with Martina Navratilova.

By pulling out at the last

minute, Williams left her older sister Venus without a doubles partner. The siblings won the doubles gold medal in the 2000 Sydney Games.

Olympic flame reaches Athens

ATHENS, Greece — The Olympic flame neared the end of its 26-nation, around-the-world journey Wednesday, arriving in the Games' host city to cheers from children, roadside parties and women dressed as ancient priestesses.

More than 600 people will carry the flame on a final, two-day trip through greater Athens and will take it from the ancient town of Marathon to Acropolis hill to the opening ceremony Friday in the new Olympic stadium.

Devers will replace Edwards in women's 100 meters

GEORGIUPOLI, Greece — Torri Edwards' two-year doping suspension cleared the way for 37-year-old Gail Devers to try to win her third gold medal in the 100 meters.

Edwards on Wednesday appealed to the international Court of Arbitration for Sport, where a binding decision should come before the track competition begins on Aug. 20.

"I really want some time to myself right now," Edwards said at the Crete resort where the team is training. As she walked away, she nodded and smiled when asked if she was taking her case to the CAS.

Edwards' suspension for taking a banned stimulant elevated Devers, a five-time Olympian, into the 100 because she finished fourth in the U.S. trials last month.

Georgia RB Lumpkin to miss season with ACL injury

ATHENS, Ga. — Georgia running back Kregg Lumpkin, who was expected to start, will be lost for the season after tearing a ligament in his left knee during a non-contact drill.

Lumpkin tore his anterior cruciate ligament Monday, the team's first day of practice. He had an MRI on Monday night. The normal recovery period for a torn ACL is about nine months.

Lumpkin was second on the team with 523 yards rushing as a freshman last year, despite missing the first two games with a hamstring injury.

Leafs goalie Belfour may play for Dallas WHA team

DALLAS — Former Stars goalie Ed Belfour was introduced Thursday as a part owner of the World Hockey Association's Dallas Americans.

Belfour said he will oversee all hockey-related activities with the WHA team, including hiring a general manager and coach. He also told The Dallas Morning News for its Thursday online editions that if an NHL lockout happens, it's possible he would play for the Americans.

"I'm working on the insurance now," said Belfour, who is under contract with Toronto and plans to retire in Dallas after his hockey career. "I don't want to sit around. I can stay in shape and play for this team."



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SPORTS



Browns rookie TE Winslow ends holdout; Tim Brown joins Gruden in Tampa Bay, Page 46



Bunker mentality



The 11th hole at Whistling Straits, above, is characteristic of the others — framed by sand traps and mounds. The links-style course, built on an abandoned military base and toxic dump site along Lake Michigan about 60 miles north of Milwaukee, has approximately 1,400 bunkers.

Dye's pet project set to pounce on PGA contestants

HAVEN, Wis. — Pete Dye, architect and snack food salesman, described Whistling Straits as "popcorn" Monday and left his listeners to divine the meaning. A good guess would be that he plans to have the 86th PGA Championship played in a microwave. There are less

Dale Hofmann



user-friendly facilities in Wisconsin, but they come with snarling dogs and steel bars. All wild and windblown, this is a purely enchanted place for everyone who doesn't have to make a living on it.

Lee Westwood, one of the top 44 players on the planet, came all the way from England to enter Dye's inferno and finished his practice round a victim of false advertising. "I was told before I got here that there were 10 really difficult holes and eight impossible ones," he said. "I'm just trying to work out which the 10 difficult holes were."

Westwood and 155 colleagues have a few days to do the math



The first green at Whistling Straits (above). For the PGA, the course will play 7,514 yards, the longest in major championship history.

"I was told before I got here that there were 10 really difficult holes and eight impossible ones. I'm just trying to work out which the 10 difficult holes were."

Lee Westwood

Englishman's first impression of Whistling Straits

and master the topography of a site that is one part breathtaking beauty to three parts surf, sand and shredded wheat. If there are three flat feet in the whole layout, don't tell Dye, because he'll be there with a bulldozer in the

morning.

The world's best players can't decide how much to practice here as they balance the benefits of familiarity against the perils of exhaustion.

As Darren Clarke put it: "I

played one practice round yesterday, and I was so tired after I played I had about 10 hours sleep last night, because you're trying to figure out where to hit it and what to do."

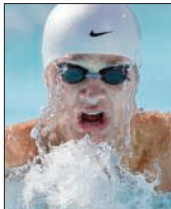
An Irishman, Clarke may be genetically inclined to exaggeration, but he doesn't complain. He called Whistling Straits "brutally difficult," in fact the toughest course he's played, but he goes on to say it's fair. Golfers by nature are masochists.

Dye just smiles a smile born of 78 years of unremitting mischief.

He denies spending his youth pulling wings off flies and while he says touring pros don't appreciate his approach a great deal, he can't imagine what Clarke is talking about when he calls his pet the toughest he's played with.

"He must have had a bad day," snorted Dye, pointing out that 200 people a day have played this course all summer long, while neglecting to mention how many of them hurried themselves off the bluffs and are now swimming with the fishes in Lake Michigan.

"I think these boys who hit it as far as they do and as straight as they do shouldn't have any trouble at all really," he goes on with



Phelps, Crocker, Hansen lead an imposing U.S. presence in the Olympic pool

Page 45



Bryant's accuser files civil suit, asks for delay in criminal trial

Page 46



Ramstein secures spot in semifinals of Little League Transatlantic regional tourney

Page 47



SEE BUNKER ON PAGE 45